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MARCH 6- MARCH 12, 2014

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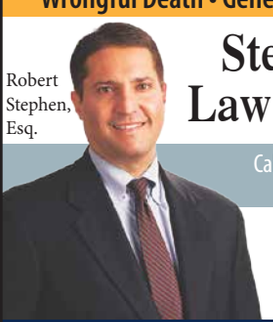
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GRANITE VIEWS JODY REESE

When rights collide



We like to think about our rights as absolute, but of course we know they really aren't. There are rules that run the gamut from how you can use your land to what kind of guns you can own. We even go a step further, commonly banning personal behavior. We ban individuals from taking drugs and selling sex acts. We ban certain contracts between two private individuals. For example, even if both parties agree, you can't avoid many of the labor laws, including the minimum wage. Society is constantly trying to balance individual rights with the rights of society.

The recent controversy about the Arizona law (that was vetoed) and a Kansas law (that was squashed by the state Senate) that would have allowed businesses to deny service to gay people getting married and the federal mandate requiring contraceptive coverage highlight how society is grappling with expanded personal freedoms on one side and people's religious beliefs on the other.

In both cases, those opposing the expanded rights are saying that their religious rights are being violated. They say that their faith compels them not to provide services for gay weddings or contraception. In the Obamacare contraceptive case, Hobby Lobby, the big-box craft store (with a location off S. Willow Street in Manchester), is arguing in a case before the U.S. Supreme Court that it should not be compelled to pay for employee contraception because the owners morally oppose it.

The same logic is behind the vetoed Arizona law that would have expressly allowed businesses to refuse to provide services to gay people.

These positions raise big questions about how our society operates. Could, then, a hotel owner refuse to rent a room to a gay couple? What about an interracial couple or an unmarried couple? What if Hobby Lobby's owners' faith included a personal prohibition on using modern medicine? Could a society force them to provide health care benefits?

Yes. When you enter into business to serve the public, you give up some of your personal rights. You agree, at least in theory, to serve all as long as they can pay and you agree to follow the laws of the land. This isn't a new concept. English common law required that lodging businesses accept all boarders regardless of faith.

But as with anything else, there are limits. Just as your religious rights aren't absolute, nor are the rights of society absolute. We should be deferential to those of sincere belief and in the minority. Our Constitution goes out of its way to protect people whose beliefs are not in the mainstream. While we as a society can compel people to violate their beliefs, we'd better have a really good reason to do so.

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ON THE COVER
14 CAN YOU NAVIGATE NH? Rebecca Fishow investigates just how accessible New Hampshire is for people with disabilities. Find out the challenges that still exist, the changes that are underway and a few places that people of all abilities can enjoy.



Also on the cover, babies will race on all fours to the finish line at the Mall of NH's Diaper Derby, happening this weekend (p. 30). Looking for a hearty brew to warm you up during this never-ending winter? Find some good recommendations on page 49. Prefer food and wine? Head to the WZID Women's Expo, where you'll find a well-known pie guy, cooking demos from local pros and a Wine Garden (p. 40).

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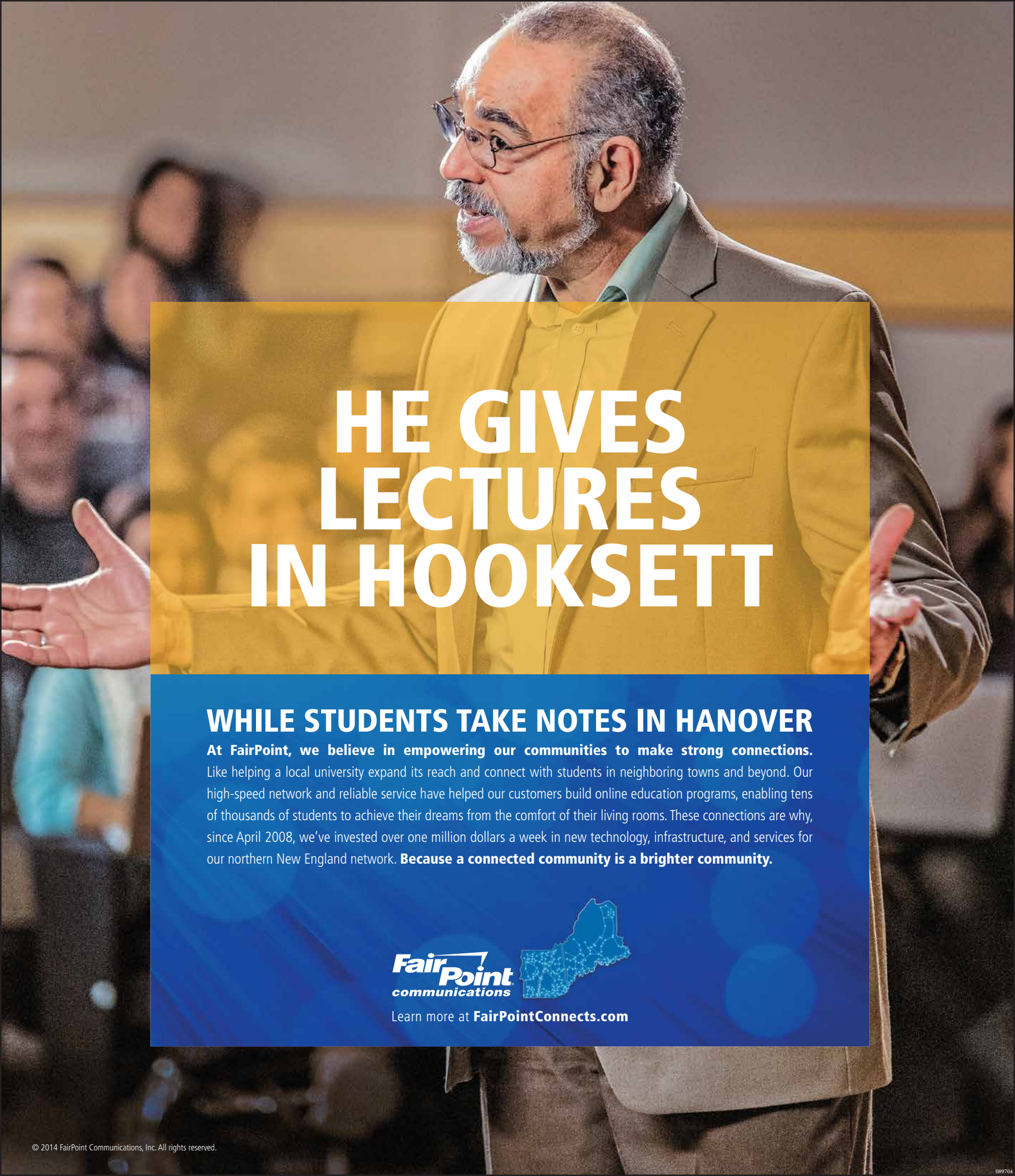
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WHILE STUDENTS TAKE NOTES IN HANOVER

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NEWS & NOTES



Fewer moose permits

The New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game calls moose hunting an "adventure of a lifetime," but because of the state's declining moose population, fewer moose hunting hopefuls will win permits this year. The raffle has begun, but only 124 season permits are up for grabs for the 2014 season. That's down more than half from the 275 awarded in recent years.

Since 1996, the state's moose population has shrunk from about 7,600 to 4,400 today. There's been an ongoing effort to figure out the cause. New Hampshire Fish and Game officials have partnered with the University of New Hampshire for a three-year study of the state's population, the Associated Press reported. Many of the moose recently collared for the study were thinner than they should be and had more ticks on their fur.

Last year, 13,000 people entered to win the permits. The odds of winning the 2013 lottery were 1 in 35 for New Hampshire residents, and 1 in 121 for nonresidents — some of the best odds in the nation for moose hunting. Though the odds are worse this year, Fish and Game says that people can improve their chances of their names being drawn by ranking all the wildlife management units on the application and then declining a permit if drawn for a unit they don't want to hunt in.

Mega-mansions

Got $49 million to spend? New Hampshire Motor Speedway founder Robert Behre has put two mega-mansion estates on the market. They're the priciest listings the state has ever seen, according to the Associated Press. The Lake Winnipesaukee estates, jointly called Longview, were built from 2000 to 2004 and feature more than 63,000 square feet of living space including a 7,665-square-foot "entertainment barn," two boathouses, a pool with a grotto, a helicopter pad, a tennis court, multiple docks and garage space for up to 22 cars. Behre, who lives in Florida, put them up for sale because he's "looking to downsize."

SNHU theft

Southern New Hampshire University's former budget director Raymond Prouty pleaded guilty last week on charges that he stole more than $1 million from the university over 14 years, the Associated Press reported. Prosecutors charged Prouty with felony theft by deception and theft by unauthorized taking in early February. They stated that he steered money for sports officials into a dummy company he created and controls. He has been sentenced to from 7.5 to 15 years in prison.

Reduced weight limits

As spring arrives, several sections of the state's roads will have reduced weight limits for trucks, according to the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Commissioner Christopher Clement ordered the spring load limits, because warmer weather means parts of roads will be vulnerable to pavement breaking up as the frost leaves the underlying road base. Road postings are determined annually by local NHDOT district engineers, who review each roadway in their areas before determining weight limits that will protect the roads.

Medicaid by July

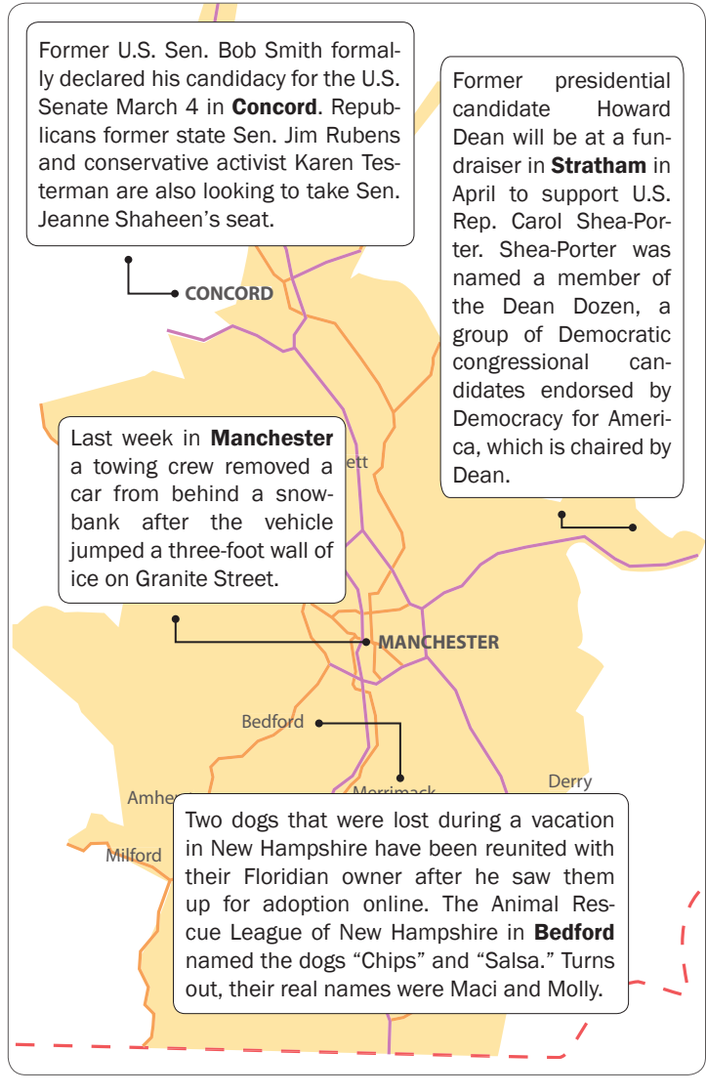
People eligible for insurance under the new Medicaid expansion guidelines should be covered in July, Gov. Maggie Hassan said, according to NHPR. The plan, which is backed by a bipartisan group of state senators, is expected to receive full approval by the legislature, but the votes have not yet been scheduled.

Body behind theater

The body of a woman was found in a patch of woods between the Cinemagic theater in Hooksett and homes on Sherwood Drive, according to WMUR. The woman was discovered by a man walking through the woods, and police have identified her as 42-year-old Cindy Bowdoin, of Hooksett. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner conducted an autopsy but has not definitively determined the cause and manner of death, and additional studies are being conducted.

"Do Not Call"

According to the Eagle Tribune, Edward D. Jones & Co., a financial services firm, has agreed to pay $750,000 for making illegal solicitation calls to people on the national "Do Not Call" list. It's the largest settlement of its kind in New Hampshire, and possibly the nation, officials said. The state Bureau of Securities Regulation said that its investigation also showed Edward Jones failed to train his agents about proper telephone solicitation and did not provide proper supervisory procedures. The money will be used to pay for the investigation and a portion of it will go to the state Investor Education Fund.



"El Chapo" busted

A top Mexican drug kingpin who was arrested last week is one of seven defendants named in a 2011 New Hampshire indictment. He was charged with conspiracy to distribute more than 1,000 pounds of cocaine and other drugs, WMUR reported. Joaquin Guzman, who's called "El Chapo," will be prosecuted in New Hampshire or one of the other districts (located in Texas, New York, California, Illinois and Florida) if the Mexican government agrees to extradite him. Four other defendants from the case are expected to be charged with the conspiracy in June in U.S. District Court in Concord, according to WMUR.

BEST WEEK

THE FISHING INDUSTRY

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration allocated nearly $33 million in federal disaster relief to the Northeast Fishing Industry last week. According to the Portsmouth Herald, New Hampshire's commercial groundfish industry is down to 14 boats from 24 boats 10 years ago. The state's fisheries were declared a federal disaster in September 2012. NOAA Fisheries' Atlantic Administrator John Bullard said that now that he knows how much money the region is getting, he can begin to decide how to distribute it, according to NHPR. New Hampshire Senators Kelly Ayotte and Jeanne Shaheen both released statements applauding the announcement.

WORST WEEK

MEDICINAL POT USERS

The state has legalized medicinal marijuana, but it's not up and running smoothly yet. According to NHPR, the Attorney General's Office is advising against issuing identification cards to residents eligible to possess up to 2 ounces of pot for medicinal purposes this summer. That's because dispensaries won't be running for another year, and the law requires cardholders to only buy from those. The Department of Health and Human Services said it will follow the AG's advice, but that's upsetting advocates of the bill who say the cards protect holders from arrest if they buy the drug on the illegal market, NHPR reported.

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NEWS

The un-snowday

More NH schools using Blizzard Bag days

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

Snow days are a part of winter. But now, instead of getting a day off to build snowmen and help with the shoveling, some Granite State students are hunkering down at desks and dining room tables to complete their Blizzard Bag assignments.

New Hampshire superintendents have had the option to declare Blizzard Bag days instead of snow days since 2010, but more districts are getting Department of Education approval to use the program. This year, 21 districts or schools, including Pinkerton Academy, Chester Academy and the Hampstead School District, are using them.

"We have several new ones this year," said Judith Fillion, division director at the New Hampshire Department of Education. "There certainly is a lot of interest in it."

How it works

Essentially, Blizzard Bag days are school days that happen at home when the weather forces schools to close. Students get phone calls and emails from school about the assignments they need to do, and they can be in contact with teachers via the Internet.

The Hampstead School District started using Blizzard Bag days for the first time this year. They opted to use regular snow days around Christmas break, but since then they've used three of their five allotted Blizzard Bag days.

Hampstead Central School Principal Dillard Collins said teachers prepared lesson plans in September and October that had to be approved by administration as Blizzard Bag material.

"Teachers spend more time preparing for that day than they would have done on that elusive extra day in June," Collins said. "We saw it as a new challenge that would be setting up standards for the future."

Designing the assignment works a bit differently, depending on grade level. For kindergarten to fourth-grade students, work focuses on reading and math comprehension skills, Chester Academy Principal Leslie Leahy said. Teachers sometimes gear assignments toward snow themes, so, for example, kids may be asked to measure snowfall at certain intervals and then add up the total accumulation.

Work for older students tends to be more involved, and if a potential blizzard day is coming up, teachers can replace the predesigned assignments with work that is more relevant to the curriculum the class is currently working on. Teachers inform students of the changes ahead of time and update the work on the school's website.

In order for a Blizzard Bag day to be considered a success, 80 percent of students and teachers must participate. When students return to school, teachers collect and grade assignments. Chester Academy determines the percentage this way: If a student completes 100 percent of the work, it counts as a full day, and half-completion equals a half day. If less than half the work is completed, it doesn't count toward a school day at all, and the student receives a zero on incomplete assignments.

How the at-home school days affect school employees' pay varies slightly from district to district. On Blizzard Bag days, most contracted staff, including teachers and administrators, are still working, so pay is not affected. Other contracted employees, like nurses, either take it as a day off or are given work to do, depending on their contracts. Paraeducators either work on these days, make up the work, or do not work, or have the option to take an unpaid day off. Hourly employees like custodians either don't work and don't get paid (like on regular snow days) or make other arrangements with their supervisors.

Parent and student response

Chester Academy, which calls them cancellation days (because the option can be used for other extreme weather, like floods), saw so much success with the program in its first two years that this year it got approval from the Department of Education for five days instead of three. The school has already used them up, so any more cancellations will have to be tacked on to the end of the school year, Leahy said.

For four of the last five days, well over 90 percent of Chester Academy students completed the work. Hampstead Central School's participation also has been higher than 90 percent each day.

"The first time we did it, we had more students participate on that day than a typical day," Collins said.

When Chester Academy piloted the program there was some opposition from parents who did not understand the process, Leahy said. But since then most parents and students have been on board.

"I think some of [the students] really enjoy it, and some parents get into it too. Other students would prefer to be out in the snow playing, but they are reminded by their parents that in the summer they will be playing while other kids are still in school," Leahy said.

Collins said the days can pose challenges for parents, too, especially those with younger children, because they need to help make sure the work gets done.

"You've got to give it up to the parents," Collins said. "I had some who had fun at home and others who said this really was a stress on [their] family."

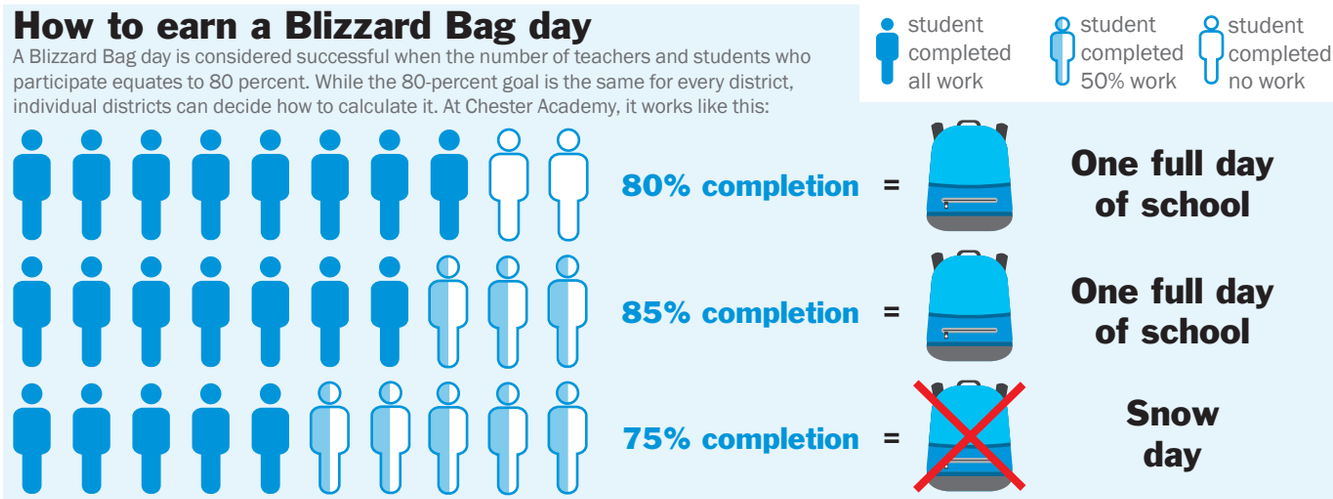
Not for all districts

While the number of schools that opt to use Blizzard Bag days is on the rise, it's not for every district.

The Contoocook Valley School District used the program for two years before dis-

How to earn a Blizzard Bag day

A Blizzard Bag day is considered successful when the number of teachers and students who participate equates to 80 percent. While the 80-percent goal is the same for every district, individual districts can decide how to calculate it. At Chester Academy, it works like this:



continuing it this year. The district faced challenges ensuring that course material was timely and relevant, Superintendent Brenda Minnihan wrote in a letter to parents.

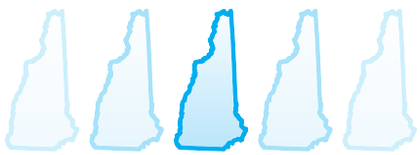
Internet access was also a problem.

"We had parents who, if they had three or four children, they didn't necessarily have three or four [Internet-accessible] devices, so it was little more challenging for those families to complete the assignments," said Kimberly Saunders, assistant superintendent of the Contoocook Valley School District.

Larger districts, including Concord, Manchester and Nashua, haven't yet used the option either. There had been discussion in the Nashua School District two years ago, but it opted not to go the Blizzard Bag route because of concerns that socioeconomic diversity means that some students may not have access to space and resources needed to complete assignments at home, Nashua School District Superintendent Mark Conrad said.

Conrad said that even if it adds make-up days to the end of the year, they typically don't push the school year past June 20. But this winter's weather has caused the district to reconsider the possibility for its senior students, as snow days running up to graduation day could present a problem.

"Because of the nature of the winter, we'll have to see what March brings. If it's a March where we only have one or two [snow days] then it won't be problematic," Conrad said. "If it's more, we may begin talking over some options."



STATE OF THE STATE

MEDICAID EXPANSION

For the next few weeks, we're taking a closer look at some of the issues Gov. Maggie Hassan discussed in her State of the State address on Feb. 6.

• **Gov. Maggie Hassan's statement:** Hassan has pushed hard for expanding Medicaid in the state and would like to be able to show some results.

During her February address, in front of a joint session of New Hampshire lawmakers, Hassan proudly announced a potential Senate compromise for implementing Medicaid expansion.

"Just a short while ago, Republican and Democratic leaders in the Senate announced that they have agreed to the framework of a workable, realistic plan to extend healthcare coverage to more than 50,000 hard-working Granite Staters," she said. "These are real people and families who we all agree deserve the security of health insurance."

She showed a desire to keep the bipartisanism rolling and move forward with securing legislation.

"Let's get this done," she said. "Capturing these federal funds will also advance our ongoing efforts to support those with mental illness by providing mental health coverage to tens of thousands."

• **The debate:** In the past, Democrats and Republicans have been at odds about how to implement the expansion and whether it should be. While Democrats have largely been on board, Republicans were concerned that the promised $2.4 billion in federal funds for the program could dry up, leaving the state to pick up the tab.

"The federal government said they will fund an expanded mandate to up to 138 percent of the poverty level," said Dean Spiliotes of NH Political Capital. "Republicans said, 'How do we know we're not going to get stuck with an unfunded mandate?'"

The question of where to get the insurance has also caused contention. Republicans have been holding out for the expansion to give people subsidies to use private insurance providers, while Democrats would prefer expanding traditional Medicaid. While the deal has not yet been solidified, it looks like the compromise would involve offering subsidies.

• **Trends and public opinion:** When the Affordable Care Act was implemented, states had the option to accept or opt out of Medicaid expansion. New Hampshire remained one of only a few states that have been reluctant about choosing either option, and people were beginning to tire of what felt like the inability of the legislation to get things done. Now that the state is moving toward implementing it, most Granite Staters are simply looking for some accelerated progress toward making that happen, said both Spiliotes and political commentator Arnie Arnesen.

"Everybody, including the business community, is looking at [the legislation]," Arnesen said. "[Hassan] will agree to any legislation, even privatizing, because she just wants the door open. You can fix something you say yes to — you can't fix something you say no to."

• **Stay tuned:** Moving forward, the nuts and bolts of the actual legislation will begin to get hammered out — or not.

"The question we might have is once the two chambers see the actual legislation," Spiliotes said. "Is it going to be smooth sailing or will things get tripped up again? That's what we're waiting to see."

— *Rebecca Fishow*

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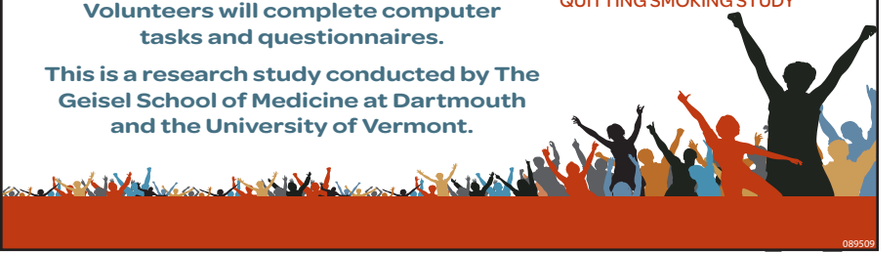
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NEWS

What's with the signs?

Peace advocates an ongoing presence in Manchester

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

If you've been downtown in Manchester on a Thursday around lunchtime, you might have noticed a handful of people holding up signs that say "End the War" and "No New War." They are out there every week, and they have been for many years. But who are they, and why are they protesting?

The weekly vigil on the corner of Mechanic and Elm streets doesn't protest a specific war — these people are against all U.S. military involvement, period.

"It began as a reaction to the war in Iraq, which [prompted concern with] the war in Afghanistan," said Curtis Smith, a demonstrator and member of NH Peace Action. "Since then we've become aware that the U.S. is in the state of almost continual war."

Smith said the group opposes the fact that the U.S. military budget is at least as much as all other countries' military budgets combined. According to Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, in 2012, the U.S. spent $682 billion on defense, while the next 10 top-spending nations spent $652 billion combined.

When they're out on their corner each week they are advocating nonviolent conflict resolution and hoping to make people aware of the economic and human costs of war.

"We believe that the military industrial complex is a great threat to our democracy," Smith said. "Somebody said you can have empire and democracy, but not both."

The core group consists of four people from southern New Hampshire, but up to about 10 people come out on any given week. Barring terrible weather, they don't miss a week.

The vigil formed out of a similar one in Nashua. Dave Tiffany was one of the founders of the Manchester vigil, but he first organized a group in Nashua in 2005. At one point, up to 40 people met every Saturday morning in front of City Hall. There's still a vigil in Nashua, but it's thinned out to about three people.

When efforts expanded to Manchester, the protesters wanted a high-traffic location. City Hall was an option, but it was the middle of the winter, and the area didn't catch any sunlight.

"We saw a corner in the sun, so we went there," Tiffany said. "Someone from Edible Arrangements gave us chocolate-covered strawberries. We knew it was the place."

Employees of businesses in the area said the vigils haven't affected their work.

"It's just a typical Elm Street thing," said Edible Arrangements kitchen supervisor Catherine Lacey. "There's some people on the street all the time. We're used to having people around."



Anti-war protesters in Manchester brave the cold to advocate for peace. Rebecca Fishow photo.

While Hichy Mounab, an employee at USA Chicken and Biscuit, said he has never had a problem with the group, he doubts the location is the best place to get a message across.

"I think nobody notices them besides the people who live over here or work over here, so I'm not sure they chose the right position to protest against war," he said.

But the vigil members said they've gotten plenty of response. When Will Thomas, a Manchester resident and member of Veterans for Peace, joined the vigils about six years ago, it was the height of U.S. occupation in Iraq, and hostility seemed to dominate the atmosphere toward the protesters, he said.

"People would drive by and call us commies or traitors. They'd say, 'Go back to Russia,' he said. "We sometimes got the middle finger. People would roll windows down and yell obscenities."

But lately the response has been mostly positive, because people in the U.S. are weary of the financial, physical, and psychological costs of war, Thomas said.

"We think the American people are very tired of trillion-dollar wars, which is what Iraq and Afghanistan cost us," Smith agreed.

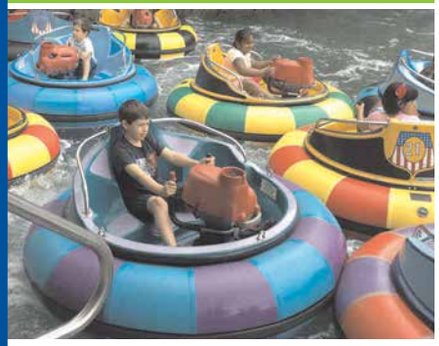
According to the Pew Research Center, opposition to U.S. airstrikes in Syria surged last September, with 63 percent in opposition compared with 48 percent in August. But another Pew poll from July showed that 78 percent of Americans say members of the armed services contribute "a lot" to society's well-being — a small decline from the 84 percent in 2009.

Regardless of public opinion, the group isn't leaving any time soon.

"As long as the U.S. is in a state of permanent war," Smith said, "we're in a state of permanent vigiling."

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Collaborative creativity

Manchester students write across schools

Students at Manchester's Hillside Middle School and Webster Elementary School have been creating fun, collaborative stories together for a new Creative Writing Club — and they've done it all via Internet. Using Google Docs, students write back and forth, with the kids at Hillside acting as mentors for the elementary schoolers. Teacher Maddy Carignan is the Hillside facilitator, and eighth-grader Emily Churchill is one of the budding writers.

Q: ***Emily, how did you get involved in Writer's Club?***

Emily: My mom and I don't usually talk to each other, so my mom thought it would [help us communicate] if I went to writers club, and it turns out, yes.

How does the Writers' Club Work?

Emily: Every other week, or sometimes [more], we meet up with the Webster kids and we Skype or we write using Google Docs.

Maddy: So we're doing real-time writing with the elementary school students. They are each on a computer, and our kids are each on a computer, so they are developing a story collaboratively. Each person takes a turn. It's pretty fun. We get some pretty wild, crazy stuff out of it, don't we?

Emily: Yes.

What's the most fun writing you have seen come out of it?

Emily: Well, we all did like a winter wonderland theme type of writing, and it just started out with so many different ideas, and what we did was have one picture and we were telling a story about that picture.

Maddy: So it was several fifth-grade girls, a third-grade girl and a few eighth-graders, so it was a variety of different, you know, perspectives looking at this picture and responding to it. And two teachers!

Emily, since you're writing with younger kids, in what ways are you a role model?

Emily: Like, being able to show them that writing is fun and it's, like, not schoolwork.

How is writing a collaborative process?

Maddy: What's been really cool about it is when we started this club, all the kids signed in to Google Docs, and everything they did, they shared amongst themselves. Even though each one of them wrote their own individual


Emily Churchill

stuff, they were reading each other's work, giving each other feedback all the time. ... Writing is not done in a vacuum. I've done a lot of work with the National Writer's Project, and writing is a collaborative effort. Even professional writers have editors, and publishers, and they're getting feedback from editors. ... I think we all become better writers when we collaborate. That was one of my goals in creating creative writers club — to help young writers understand that.

Maddy, have there been any surprises, running a group like this?

Maddy: It was a little sillier than I thought it was going to be [laughs]. ... I didn't think it was going to be as much fun as it [is]. We built some good relationships. My counterpart over at Webster, she and I both [went through training to do this]. We've known each other for years, but we've gotten really close as well, collaborating, figuring out how we want things to go, putting together the family writing night.

How do the kids benefit from using technology like Google Docs and Skype?

Emily: I've gotten to be a better typer.

Maddy: When Emily started, she didn't know even how to log in to Google Docs. And now she's up and running. With typing, I've watched her go from being painfully slow to getting pretty good. ... Just showing them what they can do with technology has been cool for us as well. The school district is slowly making the move into the Google collaborative works. Every student in Manchester has a Google account. If a teacher chooses to get them on, then they can access the technology from everywhere.

Are kids more creative than adults?

Maddy: I think our imaginations, we get out of practice. I think we still have it, and that's what's been fun for me working with the kids is it activates my imagination also. I don't think we lose it, I think we just get more focused on reality. — *Rebecca Fishow*

Maddy's five favorites

Favorite food: Oh my goodness. I would say steak or ice cream. One of the two, or both, preferably!
Favorite book: *The Kite Runner*
Favorite type of music: Probably country
Favorite movie: *The Wizard of Oz.* I never get tired of it.
Favorite thing about NH: All the outside recreation we have here. There's stuff to do every season of the year.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Watch 'em soar

With so many stories about man's negative effects on wildlife populations, it's nice to hear that sometimes, we help endangered species return. The state's bald eagle population has reached record highs, the Concord Monitor reported. The resurgence has been caused by a ban on pesticides and protection offered under the federal Endangered Species Act. In January, the New Hampshire Audubon counted 67 eagles — that's six more than the previous high recorded three times since 2008.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *Since 1983, the number of New Hampshire's bald eagles has doubled every decade.*

Thumping down the road

You'd be hard pressed to find a main road across the state that isn't riddled with potholes. Try to maneuver to avoid one and you'll likely land right smack in another. Pothole season arrived early and furiously this winter. While crews have been working hard to patch them up, the sheer number of potholes across the state has put them way behind, according to NHPR. Many of the potholes have needed multiple patch jobs.

QOL Score: -2

Comment: *According to WMUR, it's unclear whether cities and towns can be billed for damage caused by potholes.*

Heroin addiction on the rise

The State Department of Health and Human Services reported that heroin addiction is reaching epidemic proportions in New Hampshire. Sixty-four people died in heroin-related deaths last year, according to a WMUR report, with addiction seeing no specific age, region or income, with many addictions starting with pain pills. An NHPR report suggested the epidemic may be caused by a proliferation of cheap heroin, with towns like Portsmouth, which previously saw very little drug abuse in comparison to cities like Manchester and Salem, having more problems as of late.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *Shoplifting, burglary, petty theft and prostitution are also, according to the report, on the rise in Portsmouth, which could be related to the uptick in heroin use.*

Calling all Hampton Snookis

Could Hampton be the replacement for the Jersey Shore? According to Seacoast Media Group, a major production company is casting people ages 18 to 30 who summer at Hampton Beach. Authentic Entertainment, which is behind shows like *Toddlers & Tiaras* and *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo*, posted on Craigslist last week, "If you spend your summers walking the boardwalk with your friends and getting into trouble we want to hear from you!" Business owners on Hampton Beach, according to the article, aren't thrilled about the idea.

QOL Score: -1 (because look at what the show did for New Jersey's reputation!)

Comment: *The possibility of the show is still just gossip. Town officials told Seacoast Online they haven't been approached for permission to film just yet.*

QOL score: 60
Net change: -3
QOL this week: 57

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippopress.com.



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'I am the greatest' claim turns 50



You know the old saying — things happen in threes. While I never gave it much thought, three of the most culturally significant, Earth-changing events of the last 50 years happened within 60 days of each other between the end of November 1963 and the close of February 1964.

The first was the assassination of **John F. Kennedy** in Dallas, the 50th anniversary of which was noted around the world. The second was the arrival of The Beatles on American shores six weeks later, unleashing a cultural tidal wave that washed across the country. That 50th was honored with an excellent Grammy Awards tribute, later broadcast as a show on CBS. The final 50th anniversary came and went last week with a little less fanfare. That was the soon to be **Muhammad Ali** bursting onto the national stage when **Cassius Clay** TKO'd the "unbeatable" **Sonny Liston** in Miami in the final week of February '64 to become the youngest heavyweight champion.

The overwhelming emotion of each of these events was quite different. Shock and sadness were the defining emotions of the JFK story. For The Beatles, there were also tears, but they were of unrestrained jubilation by teeny-boppers watching from coast to coast over three appearances that month on the **Ed Sullivan** show. But for Clay, revulsion and even fear first came to mind, at least for white America.

That's what makes the journey of Ali most remarkable, because he started so low in the public's esteem — at best a loudmouth bragger at a time when folks didn't cotton to that type of behavior, to, at worst, a visible black public figure joining a menacing religious sect threatening the status quo at a time of high racial strife. And still he rose to a height in the American sports culture that only one before him — **Babe Ruth** — and one after him — **Michael Jordan** — have ever reached. The only difference is that Ali's fame was world-wide as he arguably became the most well-known and beloved figure of any kind on the planet.

So it's probably hard for those who checked into the Ali story in the late '70s or beyond to fully understand how he was thought of in the early days. Make no mistake, it was not a popular act. A least by the mainstream establishment white sports fans. And while it still had its criminally shady side, with some fighters like Liston having ties to the underworld, boxing remained VERY BIG in this country. So when during that time of racial turmoil the new heavyweight champ announced, 50 years ago, that he was a Black Muslim and would be called Muhammad Ali (with a quick stop as Cassius X) going forward, it got everyone's attention. Just as the militant Nation of Islam figure **Malcolm X** did hanging around his training camp before the fight.

But unlike everyone knowing JFK's assassination would probably stay with them forever and that The Beatles were Fab, not a fad, no one had a clue what was about to unfold with Ali. In the beginning, the first thing it did was unofficially usher in the era of trash talking and brash self-promoting athletes so common today. Except he was authentic and others that followed, like **Deion Sanders**, **Richard Sherman, John Rocker** and **Brian Bozworth** are/were wannabe, inauthentic knock-offs. Till that point no one would ever scream "I Am The GREATEST!" about himself as Ali did in the chaos following the Liston TKO.

Next came the re-match and "phantom punch" in Lewiston, Maine, (who picked that backwater site?) that had many believing the mobbed up, ex-con Sonny took a dive. But over time views began to change as many were entertained by his humor, quick wit and undeniable skill. Among the first to articulate the skill was the great **Joe Louis,** doing ringside commentary on the closed-circuit TV feed of the Liston fight. He said Round 1 was the best round of boxing he'd ever seen and when it was over called it the greatest upset in boxing history. And while he had legions of media critics, Ali had allies too, most notably little-known **Howard Cosell**, who did the color radio commentary of the Liston fight. He championed Ali right off and rode the elevator along with him to national fame.

Not everyone bought it, though, especially when he refused induction into the military as a conscientious objector, 47 years ago April 28, saying "I ain't got no quarrel with them Viet Cong." That didn't sit well with the generation that put it all on the line 20 years earlier during World War II. They still called him Clay and celebrated when he was stripped of his title. But it did connect with those opposing the controversial war. And while he was speaking on college campuses across the country during his 3½ years away from boxing a bridge was built to young people of all colors.

When he finally did return to boxing in 1971 everything was different. When he fought now champion **Joe Frazier** for the title at Madison Square Garden 43 years ago this Saturday, March 8, it was by far the biggest thing in the country, and a fight he probably won more from by losing, especially after getting off the deck to keep going after a devastating 15th-round left hook put him on his back. After that came two more fights with Smokin Joe, including the gut-wrenching Thrilla in Manila when he retained the title he reclaimed at the Rumble in the Jungle. That came in Kinshasa, Zaire, where he again stunned all of boxing beating another "unbeatable" foe, the then menacing, now genial **George Foreman**. It cemented his position as the most well-known person and beloved sports figure in the world.

It is a story that only could have been written in America with ups, downs and dramatic comebacks during a time of remarkable cultural change, where he was, as much as anyone, the towering figure in it.

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Locals are top seeds

The Big Story: Should be a most interesting state tournament on the boys' basketball side in Division I that got started after deadline on Tuesday, where locals are expected to play prominent roles. Powerful Manchester Central enters as the No. 1 seed after winning all 21 games this year. But the undefeated regular season now means little, at least for a few weeks, as the one-and-done format means a loss and you're out. The second seed is 16-1 Trinity, whose only loss came in a convincing 77-60 thumping by Central that actually started in December and concluded on Jan. 19 due to unplayable conditions**.** Merrimack, who gave Central its closest call of the year in a 62-59 January loss is the three seed at 16-2, with its only other loss coming in similar fashion 62-57 to Trinity.

Sports 101: The Celtics have had two player-coaches in their history. Name them.

Alumni News: Nice to see the Lyons brothers of the Bedford Lyons hold their own against the Red Sox in the exhibition opener vs. Northeastern. They went a combined 1 for 4 and while centerfielder Connor was 0 for 2 batting third in the line-up, Sean led off the game with a single off **Brandon Workman** before heading out to right field.

Who's Hot: At 21-0 Central is the hottest team entering the D-I Basketball Tournament, but look out for Bedford, which rebounded from a frustrating 1-7 start to win its last 10 games, with the latest being crushing Dover 85-47 on Friday behind double-digit scorers **Cam Maservey** (17) and **Tommy O'Rourke** (10).

And Another Thing: Thanks to e-mailers on their thoughts on sports movies from last week's column. I had to cut a lot for space, but after being reminded by more than a few, I admit it: I flat-out forgot about *Hoosiers*.

Sports 101 Answer: The two Celtics player-coaches were **Bill Russell** (1966-1969) and **Dave Cowens** (1978-79).

On This Date – March 6: **1972 - Jack Nicklaus** passes **Arnold Palmer** as golf's all-time money winner. **Born: 1972 Shaquille O'Neal**, four-time NBA champion. **Died: 2006 Kirby Puckett**, Minnesota Twins Hall of Famer.

The Numbers

2 – overtime periods needed before Londonderry won an 87-80 thriller over Nashua South, sent to the first OT by a shot at the buzzer by South's **Mike Osgood** and peppered by high-scoring nights from e Lancers **Caleb Green** (31) and **Cody Ball** (21) and South's **Yordy Tavarez** (25).

4 – shutouts for **Stevan Tempesta** after a 3-0 win over neighboring Goffstown when **Neil Soucy**'s score late in Period 2 was the game-winner and **Asa Palker** put it away with two final-period scores.

19 – saves by **Ian Beliveau** to go along with two goals from **Jake Clark** as Central won its fourth straight, 6-1 over Nashua South, to lock up a first-round bye in the upcoming State Hockey Tournament.

27 – points scored by **Makenah Griffon** in a heartbreaking loss for Manchester Memorial when Winnacunnet was a one-point winner, 70-69.

30 – points by **Emily Kendall** (16) and **Taylor Choate** (14) in leading Nashua North to a win in a 55-54 thriller over Trinity when **Amanda Torres** had 20 for Trinity.

1,000 – career point mark reached by Trinity's shooter **Carmen Giampetruzzi** when he went for 30 points (and 16 rebounds) in a 75-57 win over Nashua North.

Sports Glossary

Joe Louis: Luminary boxing figure and heavyweight champion for a record 13 years. Knocked out **James J. Braddock** in 1937 to win the title and succeeded in defending it 26 times before retiring (the first time) after knocking out **Jersey Joe Walcott** at Yankee Stadium in 1948 to finish his career at 58-1. The only loss was a 12-round knockout by German **Max Schmeling** in 1936 that gave Hitler's "Aryan Superiority" claims a gigantic propaganda boost. But that was debunked by a first-round knockout in 1938.

Jersey Joe Walcott: Last victim of champion Joe Louis, later short-time heavyweight champ and finally the referee of the controversial second Ali-Liston phantom punch fight in Lewiston, Maine.

Lewiston, Maine: Backwater locale somehow picked as the site for the highly anticipated Ali-Liston rematch. It was held in the 3,700-seat Central Maine Youth Center and sold just 2,343 tickets.

Malcolm X: White-bashing early spokesman for the Nation of Islam, gunned down not too long after splitting from the Nation's leader, **Elijah Muhammad**, whose followers many believed were behind the hit.

Howard Cosell: One-of-a-kind sportscaster who rose to national attention during **Muhammad Ali**'s ascension as a transcendent star. Despite being, brash, loud, egotistical and insecure with a gigantically overblown opinion of his own intellect, it somehow worked. He was once voted the most popular and the most hated in the same opinion poll of national sportscasters.

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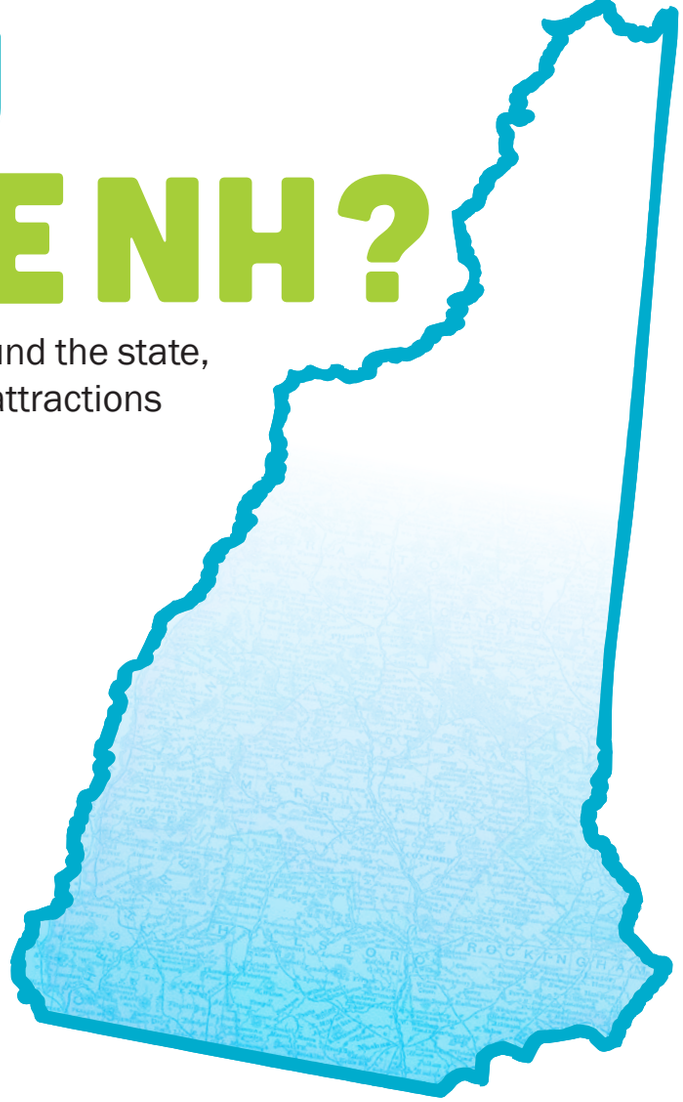
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CAN YOU NAVIGATE NH?

A look at the difficulties of getting around the state, plus access-friendly cities, parks and attractions





By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

For many of the state's non-disabled residents, mobility and accessibility to New Hampshire's wealth of resources — like businesses, parks, museums and roads — doesn't require much thought. They decide what they want to do and where they want to go, and, generally, it's easy enough to make it happen.

But according to the 2008 U.S. Census Bureau, about 11 percent, or 141,000, of New Hampshire residents report having a disability. For them, getting to the grocery store or a doctor's appointment, fostering a healthy social life, and even moving through a house or apartment can be a painstaking endeavor.

"New Hampshire is a small state, and our resources are limited," said Guy Woodland, senior vice president of the New Hampshire Association for the Blind. "But I think we all work together to create a network of organizations to work with persons of disability. We do the best we can."

In 1992, the federal government put the Americans with Disabilities Act into effect. The ADA recognized that historically, people with disabilities are often isolated and segregated. Since then, the state government and local advocacy and service organizations have been working toward universal accessibility — but the process hasn't been without challenges. So while there have been many advances, the Granite State is still coming up short in some areas, from transportation to building accessibility.

Transportation troubles

Access to public transportation is the No. 1 problem facing the state's disabled population, Woodland said. According to a UNH Survey Center Granite State Poll, no public transportation system exists for more than 80 percent of New Hampshire's communities.

"It's an issue that needs to be worked on," Woodland said. "You may be able to access a bus in Manchester or Concord, but you can't access one between Concord and Laconia. The intercity and intertown options just don't exist."

Before 2010, the state matched both rural and urban Federal Transit Administration funding, which amounted to about $180,000 — an amount that was at the bottom of the heap for what most state governments invest in public transportation systems, Woodland said.

But since 2010, zero state dollars have gone to funding public transportation options. Funds were not included in the final budget approved by the governor, despite being requested by the NHDOT, said Jeff Butler, NHDOT public transit administrator. Currently most funds used to operate transportation systems come only from local and federal sources.

Every two years, state authorities update what is known as the Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan, a long-term maintenance plan that encompasses state highways, railroads, transit, bicycles, pedestrians, and aeronautics programs. The latest plan does call for the DOT to reinstate some of the major transportation funds that were eliminated years ago.

"This year one message that was made clear was funding for transportation is grossly lacking,"said Fred Roberge, vice president of transportation for Easter Seals New Hampshire and chair of the state Coordinating Council for Community Transportation.

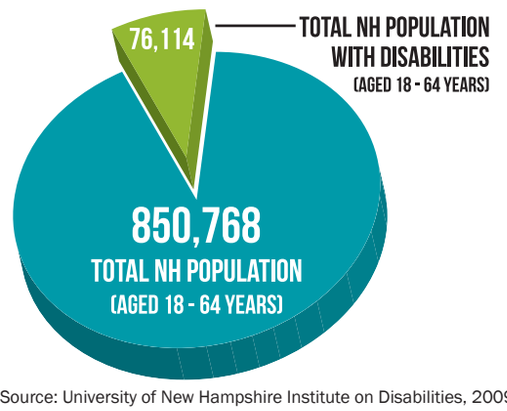
In areas of the state where there are bus services, accommodations are good, said Phyllis Brooks, transportation services coordinator at Granite State Independent Living, a nonprofit that assists people with acquiring the tools needed to live independently. All the bus services in the state's larger cities, including Manchester, Nashua, Concord and Portsmouth, are accessible by wheelchair.

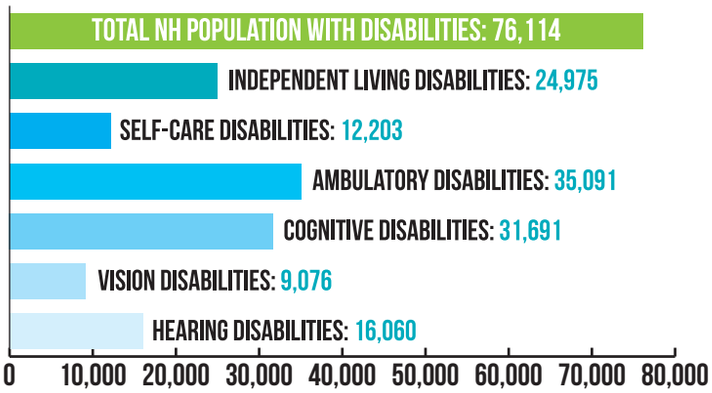
The problem lies in the the state's more rural areas, where bus services have been cut or were never available in the first place. People with disabilities in these areas have difficulty getting to grocery stores and doctors' appointments. That forces people with certain immobilizing disabilities into larger cities, Brooks said.

"If someone lives in Allenstown where they can afford to live because the tax rate might be better, there's no service out there," Brooks said. "It just lacks in that area. I really feel it lacks. There are so many little individual towns not serviced."

State funding shortfalls have left it up to local nonprofits like Easter Seals and GSIL to offer as much transportation aid — like van services and reimbursements for drivers — as possible.

Types and prevalence of disabilities in NH





Source: University of New Hampshire Institute on Disabilities, 2009 data

Making buildings accessible

"It's hard to say how New Hampshire does with accessibility to buildings as a whole, because there are so many small entities involved," said Aaron Ginsberg, staff attorney for the Disabilities Rights Center of New Hampshire.

Providing universal access to public and private buildings is an ongoing process. Some challenges are geographical. Certain states have more trouble than others, and New Hampshire is likely one of those, said Ginsberg. The state is full of old buildings that were not built with accessibility in mind. It's also not flat like Kansas or Nebraska; a hilly landscape causes impediments on a topographical level. Winter also causes a whole host of problems.

"Just having snow and ice on the ground makes it harder even for people that don't have mobility issues to move around," Ginsberg said.

The state is required to follow ADA regulations when it comes to making public and private buildings accessible. The ADA regulations treat old buildings differently than new ones. All new construction (including modifications or alterations) must be fully compliant with ADA accessibility guidelines. When it comes to old buildings, accessibility renovations are required if they are not too costly, and for any serious renovation project, universal accessibility requirements must be met, Ginsberg said.

The older the city's or town's buildings,

Spotlight: Complete Streets Project

Concord's accessibility makeover



A rendering of Concord's Complete Streets Project Source: concordmainstreetsproject.com

Concord is leading the way for providing accessibility for differently-abled people through its Downtown Complete Street Project (more commonly known as the Main Street Project), which is slated for completion in 2015. The city was one of only a handful across the country that received more than $4.71 million from a federal grant program to make downtown as accessible as possible.

One of the major project goals is improving access and mobility. At the onset, the street had 18 properties that were not considered accessible by Americans with Disabilities Act standards, said Carlos Baia, deputy city manager for developments. The west side of Main Street has a two-step sidewalk, which is not conducive to people with disabilities, he said. At this point planners have found a solution for 17 of the 18 properties.

A second priority was to see if city planners could make the entrances to those 18 properties more accessible as well, which means working in conjunction with property owners. Feedback from business owners was favorable, Baia said. For the public and the private side it offers economic viability and makes businesses more welcoming.

"I think we're going to be pioneers in terms of a city that made a commitment to use federal money to make improvements, where, end of day, anyone — able-bodied or not — can have access to local infrastructure," he said.

The project has run into some snags, though. The first two times city planners sought bids from contractors to complete the project, only one company applied each time. The first bid, from F.L. Merrill Construction of Pembroke, was $12.23 million and the second bid, from E.D. Swett Inc. of Concord, was even higher at $13.83 million. The city budget is $6.2 million. Both bids were rejected.

This third time looking for bids, officials said the city will be relaxing its parameters. The new flexibility should not affect plans to make make the downtown universally accessible, though, said Ed Roberge, Concord city planner, because accessibility improvements are key to the project.

"Accessibility comes in a number of forms — for instance, parking spaces, sidewalk ramps and the elimination of double-step curbs. Those are all base elements we certainly want to keep in the project," Roberge said.

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the less accessible it is, said Dean Davis, who has cerebral palsy and has lived in both Manchester and Concord.

"I think Concord is worse than Manchester because they have old buildings they have to work with, and some old buildings can't be wheelchair accessible. Manchester is, to me, more wheelchair accessible than Concord."

There are also regulations for the number of accessible parking spaces required — a touchy subject, Ginsberg said.

"You'll often hear grumbling about accessible parking, and how unfair it is, and how they always see stickers for people who don't look disabled at all," he said. "But a lot of times disabilities cannot be seen."

Housing helpers

In the past 20 years, as the population has aged, more and more of the state's housing buildings have been constructed based on universal design and are either fully accessible or require very little modification, said Sarah Hopkins, independent living services manager at Granite State Independent Living.

"I don't feel as though there is enough of a focus yet, but it's definitely growing," Hopkins said. "The bulk of the state's housing stock is older, so it is not designed universally to fit a spectrum of physical abilities."

When it comes to renovating older houses, common necessities include wider door frames, changes to electrical systems, ramp installations, and adjusted bathrooms and kitchens. Products for these renovations are getting to be more common in local building supply stores, but they can be costly.

"A ramp can be anywhere from $3,500 to $7,000, so it's pretty expensive. If you're on a limited income you need to really pull together resources to make that happen," Hopkins said.

The population Hopkins works with are usually from lower income levels, she said. GSIL offers a number of programs to help them. Its Access Modification Program funds renovations ranging from ramp installations and adding stair gliders, to automatic door openers and tub cuts, which modify standard bathtubs for people with disabilities. They have also helped fund needs outside of the scope of home modifications, like paying for wheelchair batteries that are not covered by insurance.

Hopkins has found that across the state the funding resources for people who need help modifying their homes are decreasing. When clients come to GSIL for help, they are assigned a service coordinator whose first order of business is to seek out other funding for renovation processes before tapping in to GSIL's funding resources. This could include eligibility for a home and community-based waivers, various types of medical insurance, and other smaller local grants. But there simply aren't as many options as there used to be, she said.

"We have noticed a big change over the last three years," she said. "We fund as a last-resort basis. … It has been getting harder and harder because of the change of the overall environment. Because of the economic situation, some funders are either closing down or finding they have limited funds to grant."

GSIL's access modification program tends to run out of funds before the end of the fiscal year in September, Hopkins said. By midsummer, they often have to delay projects until the next fiscal cycle in October.

Parks and rec roundup

"We want to make our parks available to everyone, basically to do the best we can" said Amy Bassett, spokesperson for the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation.

But there are some limitations because of natural features, she said. The accessibility of every park is different. When it comes to building accessible trails, the landscape of some terrain would have to

NH's most accessible parks

Amy Bassett, spokesperson for the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation, recommends these state parks for universal accessibility.

Franconia Notch State Park

Accessibility: An aerial tramway that can take anyone up to the top of Cannon Mountain for scenic mountain views. It's also easy to get around at the top.

Hampton Beach State Park

Accessibility: Five easy access points to the sand and beach wheelchairs with bigger, sand-worthy wheels were created during its $14.5 million makeover in 2011.

Northwood Meadows State Park

Accessibility: This 675-acre wooded park touted for fishing and exploring the outdoors was built a few years ago with accessibility in mind. It has easily accessible trails.

Wellington State Park

Accessibility: The state's largest freshwater swimming area, in Bristol, is also a safe bet for universal accessibility.

Spotlight: "How Can I Help You?"

An educational video for healthcare professionals

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind recently helped the Concord Hospital to produce an educational training DVD called *How Can I Help You?* The video (which you can find on YouTube) focuses on how to assist a person who is visually impaired when being admitted to or visiting a health care office or hospital. The video's primary audience is volunteers and staff. It explains crucial tools like how to provide a sighted guide and how to assist persons with guide dogs.

"It's a wonderful educational tool on access to help people have a better patient experience," said Guy Woodland, vice president of the New Hampshire Association for the Blind.

Since its conception, the video has become popular not only at the Concord Hospital, but around the state and even the country. That's because it has been circulated to healthcare facilities around the state and is also available for free download at sightcenter.org. Woodland said that the video has become a leading tool for healthcare workers because "it's one of few resources of its kind."

Q&A: Getting around

Can I get a ride?

Brain cancer left New Hampshire native John Fenley blind in one eye and with tunnel vision in the other. He serves on the New Hampshire Council on Developmental Disabilities and is president of People First of New Hampshire and a member of Self Advocacy Leadership Team.

What have your experiences with public transportation been like?

I live in Lebanon … which is right near Hanover and the Dartmouth College campus. As a result we have Advance Transit, which is a really reliable and award-winning bus service, funded through Dartmouth. That is kind of a rare occurrence — there aren't a lot of towns in New Hampshire that have reliable service. ... I have friends who live in the outskirts of town, where the bus doesn't reach them, so they rely on parents and friends.

One of the greatest letdowns, even in the towns with bus services, is they do not extend to later at night. So we really don't have an opportunity to access the nightlife.

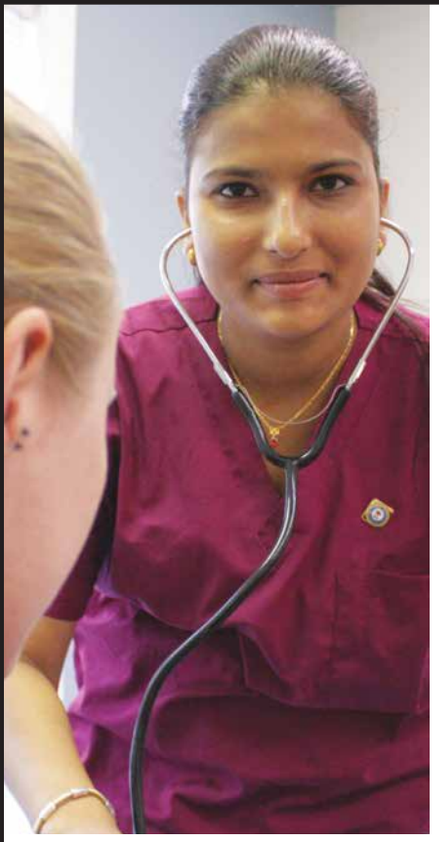
... I've been looking at [job opportunities]. ... There was a local job posting for a puzzlemaker, but they are out in the middle of nowhere. That was just one example of where I had an opportunity to do something greater, but I didn't even bother applying. How would I get there?

Do you have other help?

My mom is a huge system of support for me. If I need to get to a doctor's appointment or what have you, she's able to answer the call and help get me there. But there's this sort of feeling of personal guilt. … When you're cashing in a chip to get a ride from your family, you have to really choose.

In situations of limited transportation, what can be done?

Primarily for people with disabilities, when they've identified there is an issue with their transportation, it's kind of like, oh well, that's that. … The state only spends 1 percent of its budget toward transportation. You realize: what hope do I have in trying to impact a change in this regard? And so for me and many members of SALT, when we hit upon the idea of writing a position paper, that was our way to act. Instead of saying, 'This really stinks,' we were able to come together and do something about it. … Everyone wrote a personal narrative about a time they felt transportation really failed them. We incorporated bits of that in our letter. … It's in many ways a woven tapestry of voices.



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A study funded by the federal government is being conducted to determine how these training opportunities help people to improve their skills and find better jobs. During the study, eligible applicants will be selected by lottery to receive healthcare training. Not all eligible individuals will be selected to participate.

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Corey Kotz skis at Crotched Mountain. Courtesy photo.

be changed drastically.

Money is also an issue. The department, which is self-funded, has begun to make changes where it can as resources become available. Bringing facilities up to code is a big project, Bassett said, as some of the bathrooms and other buildings are many years old.

"Over the next couple years we're going to be adding new bathhouses to some parks to replace some of those that are not where they should be," she said.

Currently, the best way for people to check on the accommodations of state parks is to contact the park they would like to visit and ask officials about accessibility. Years ago, the department had a grid posted on its website that outlined accessibility levels for each state park. But that information became outdated, as ADA standards changed over time, and access to it was discontinued after Parks and Recreation created a new website, Bassett said.

New data may be available soon. The department is hoping to conduct an accessibility assessment within the next year for each state park. It will examine features like camping, pathways, picnic tables, facilities and check-in areas. The assessment will result in better information to the public and a blueprint for necessary improvements, Bassett said.

Sight impairment headway

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind's advocacy committee is working on major issues facing people who are visually impaired.

Voting rights are crucial, said Guy Woodland of the New Hampshire Association for the Blind, who is also legally blind. For the

Q&A: King of the Mountain

Recreation for all

Many of the state's skiing hot spots, like Loon Mountain, Mount Sunapee, Gunstock and Crotched Mountain, offer adaptive ski programs for individuals with a variety of disabilities. Forty-year-old Corey Kotz, who has multiple sclerosis, discusses his experience skiing with Crotched Mountain Accessible Recreation and Sports Program.

How did you get involved with skiing?

I had been skiing since I was in sixth grade. … I'd taken skiing as far as I could safely take it. So I started snowboarding in 1996, and I snowboarded until 2002. I was diagnosed with MS in 1999. I probably snowboarded for two or three years after my diagnosis. … But as my MS progressed I found myself doing less and less physical things. I was rationalizing that I could do less, which was a bad thing, because it's not true. It took me a long time to figure that out. In 2009 I got into the adaptive program. … They got me on the mountain on Crotched. That just started the whole thing.

How is adaptive skiing different?

The adaptive ski is different for every person. Some people can ski with assistive bars. Some can use snowboards. For me, it was safer to be in a sit ski because of my lack of balance. So I ski in a bi-ski. … So you're sitting. Its a whole different thing. You're in a machine. It's a sit-ski with straps. From the beginning you have an instructor who is basically attached to you, who is tethering you. You have one person behind you. Depending on things, they could be directing you. … You may be skiing with two other instructors on top of your lead. Picture yourself sitting in a chair and when you lean it controls what edges you're on. You kind of lean into the edge and into the turn.

What's the social community like?

It's a big family. That is the truth. When you first start skiing there you're welcomed with open arms. Whatever your level, your disability, your level of communication. ... It's an open door and you leave all your baggage at the door.

How important it is to you, and what do you love so much about it?

Well, it's important to me because it's getting me back into a sport that was and is such a major component in my life. … When you lose your physical abilities you feel like your independence is being taken away, but when you get back on that mountain it's like you're getting it back.

Adults Needing Personal Assistance

Projections of New Hampshire's adults who will need "activities of daily living" assistance in the coming years.

Year	Number of Adults*
2010	29,000
2015	33,000
2020	37,000
2030	42,000
2025	48,000

Source: Center for Personal Assistance Services. *Numbers show the highest end of a projected range

past 10 years, the nonprofit has helped ensure access to voting facilities across the state by working with the Governor's Commission on Disability. Since 2006 there have been laws in place that require access to voting for blind people on a federal and state level for persons who are blind, and the state developed a telephone fax system that allows blind people to vote privately and independently.

"[2006] was the first time I was able to vote privately and independently in my life, so there is a lot being done," Woodland said.

At the municipal level, there's still work to be done to ensure availability of the voting service, Woodland said. Last November, he went to vote at his local municipality election, but it did not offer a sight-impaired option.

And even with the technology in place, limited funding has made it difficult to educate the blind-and visually-impaired public about access to non-visual voting.

"It's been word of mouth, and the Secretary of State has been doing some outreach, but it's been limited. There is need for communication," Woodland said.

In order for the system to work, the public buildings where elections are held must also be accessible for persons with disabilities. That may include putting contrast lines on steps so a person with limited vision can see them.

Spotlight: Governor's Commision on Disability

An etiquette review

The Governor's Commission on Disability's goal is to "remove the barriers, architectural, attitudinal or programmatic, that bar persons with disabilities from participating in the mainstream of society." It has the responsibility to advise the governor and other state agencies in matters of public policy. It helps other state agencies find remedies for accessibility issues, and during the legislative season, it reviews every single piece of legislation to assess whether it will impact people with disabilities.

If combing through legislation doesn't seem like enough work, in the past month the commission has also completed the creation of a presentation regarding etiquette, which now functions as a train-the-trainer tool, so that state agency leaders can bring the knowledge back to their employees. It was recently presented to the New Hampshire Department of Resource and Economic Development.

An example of best practice is always speaking about a person first: "person with a disability" is preferred over "disabled person."

"When we speak about an individual with a disability, we always define them with the disability, not the other way around. It's no longer a blind person, it's a person who may have hearing loss. It's a person who may have a developmental disability," said Chuck Saia, the commission's executive director.

Other points of etiquette include:

- The term "handicap parking" is outdated to, and the preferred term is "accessible parking."
- It's not an "electric chair," it's a "power chair."
- Wheelchairs are an extension of a person's personal space, and therefore should not be touched without permission.

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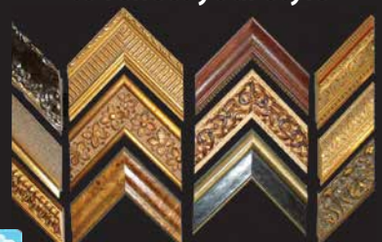
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Spotlight: The Phenix Hall Case

Accessibility vs. preservation



A rendition of Phenix Hall, after Complete Streets Renovations. Source: concordmainstreetsproject.com

Aaron Ginsberg, staff attorney for the Disabilities Rights Center, applauded Concord's Complete Streets Project, but he's also privy to some of the more difficult challenges of improving accessibility to the state's businesses.

"Our office usually doesn't hear about the success stories where an owner does a renovation and makes it completely accessible," he said. "We hear when things are going wrong. … We've dealt with a building owner that's done a renovation and hasn't made it accessible, and even more with people who haven't done renovations but easily could ... in a town hall or municipal building, as well as with private [buildings]."

He spoke specifically about the lawsuit known in his office as "The Phenix Hall Case."

In 2011, attorneys at the Disabilities Rights Center represented three plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the owner of the historic Phenix Hall building in Concord and two businesses in the building.

The building's owner, Mark Ciborowski, began conducting renovations in 2010 to the front of the building, which opens up on Main Street, but did not include plans to make first-floor storefronts accessible to people in wheelchairs or make other alterations required by the ADA.

"I went to Bagel Works [one of the businesses in the Phenix Hall Building] to see if I could get in, and I had to ask somebody to get into Bagel Works and order what I wanted," said Dean Davis, one of the plaintiffs, who has cerebral palsy.

According to Jack Crisp, the attorney who represents the Mark Ciborowski trust, the renovations, which included replacing some windows and doors, centering a door, removing metal coverings on the walls to expose the original granite and repairing granite steps to the entrance, did not constitute a major renovation, and so meeting ADA construction renovations should not have been required.

"There have always been two steps to get into retail store space," Crisp said. "The point was to get back the original appearance of the building."

The question of preserving historical significance vs. creating accessibility was another point of contention in the case. Ultimately, Ciborowski argued that making the building accessible would compromise its historical value — the 1855 building was visited by Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt, as well as other historical people. It's also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

"[Before renovating] my client very much struggled over trying to balance competing interests, one being accessibility, one being historic significance," Crisp said. "He's done a lot to try to be a good steward of the buildings."

The case eventually ended in a settlement agreement, so a precedent wasn't set for such conflicts. According to ADA.gov, alterations to historic properties must comply "to the maximum extent feasible." However, if following the usual standards would threaten or destroy the historic significance of a feature of the building, alternative standards may be used.

The broad strokes of the settlement were that Phenix Hall would become accessible through the Complete Streets Project.

"Complete Streets was going to do a variety of other things … including making [the] streets wider and eliminating Phenix Ave., the street that abuts the building. … It was going to be possible to achieve accessibility where it wouldn't have been possible before," Crisp said.

If the opportunity to execute renovations through Complete Streets doesn't pan out, Ciborowski would have to make it accessible through a front sidewalk or rear entrance, Ginsberg said. He agreed to put in an elevator in the back of the building from the ground floor to the first floor.

"It's really hard to stress enough the importance of really being able to get into public places, both businesses as well as parks and government [buildings]," Ginsberg said.

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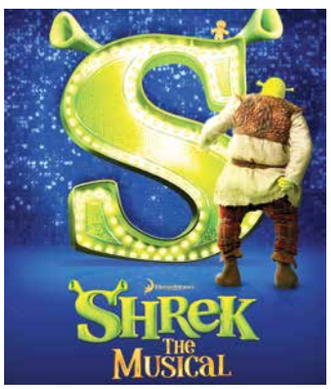
THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT MARCH 6 - 12, 2014, AND BEYOND

Friday, March 7

Fronted by a world-class piano accordion maestro and three of Ireland's finest musicians, the Alan Kelly Gang performs at the Dana Center (100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester 641-7700) at 7:30 p.m. The group has been hailed by international critics for its consummate musicianship and powerful, emotive performance. Dynamic instrumentals, beautifully arranged songs, driving rhythms, and buoyant harmonies breathe new life into old favorites and offer vibrant new takes on modern classics. Tickets are $33.75 at anselm.edu.





Thursday, March 6

What's more fun than watching *Shrek* on DVD? Watching *Shrek the Musical*, performed by the Palace Youth Theatre, on stage at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Shows are Thursday, March 6, at 7 p.m.; Wednesday, March 12, at 7 p.m.; and Thursday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets $12. Call 668-5588, visit palacetheatre.org.



Saturday, March 8

Spend a morning finding a workout you might actually love at the Concord Family YMCA (15 State St., Concord, 228-9622, concordymca.org) Fitness-Palooza from 8 to 11 a.m. It's open to everyone (free for members, $5 for non-members), and you'll have a chance to try out several fitness classes and talk to instructors. Registration is not required, so head on in and find your fitness.



Sunday, March 9

The Leprechaun Leap 5K Road Race will get underway in front of O'Briens Pub (118 Main St., Nashua) on Sunday, March 9, at 10 a.m. The race will begin with a short runner's parade lead by bagpipers. Registration opens at 8 a.m. Cost is $25 on race day, or visit teamearley.org/Leprechaun_Leap_5K.html to register early. All race participants (21 years and older) will receive a free beer ticket for an after-race Irish celebration. Prizes for best-dressed leprechaun.



Tuesday, March 11

Head to Jocelyn's Mediterranean Restaurant and Martini Bar (355 S. Broadway, Salem, 870-0045, jocelynsrestaurant.com) at 7 p.m. for a Paint and Sip party. Enjoy cocktails while painting with step-by-step instructions. Costs $45. Visit theartistbar.com to register.

Eat: Tea party finger foods
On Sunday, March 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Cozy Tea Cart (104 Route 13, Brookline, 249-9111, thecozyteacart.com) is hosting an afternoon tea. The menu includes Irish tea bread, chicken salad puffs, Irish cheddar and apple tea sandwiches, bread pudding with orange sauce and other treats. Registration required.

Drink: Belle Ambience wines
Napa East (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, 595-9463, napaeast.com) is hosting a five-course dinner, each paired with a wine from Delicato Winery's new Belle Ambience wines, on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost $60. Reservations required.

Be merry: Discover magic
Andrew Pinard will have audiences "Discovering Magic" on Wednesday, March 12, at 8 p.m. at Red River Theatres, Simchik Cinema, 11 S. Main St., Concord. The audience actively participates in this hour-long performance, an up-close look at magical feats like sleight of hand, con games and more. Call 224-4697 or visit redrivertheatres.org. Tickets are $15 per person.

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This nuts-and-bolts guide to starting your own business will be a 10-week course presented by Hippo Publisher Jody Reese and other prominent local business leaders. The classes will start Wednesday, March 19 and be held from 7 to 9 p.m. each Wednesday for 10 weeks at the campus of UNH Manchester in the Millyard — and best of all it's free thanks to our sponsors Bank of New Hampshire and the University of Manchester, but space is limited.

To apply, send your name and a paragraph about yourself, what kind of business you want to start or that you are currently running, and why you want to attend, to: bootcamp@hippopress.com

ARTS

Celebrating superpowers

Strong message in comic book-themed show

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

The superheroes in the Majestic Theatre's *Adventures of a Comic Book Artist* rendition don't possess traditional superpowers — instead of flight and super strength, they boast mastery of speed, knock-out florals and incredible erasing abilities.

But, as a few cast members explained at the Majestic Theatre of Dramatic Art's rehearsal studio last Tuesday evening, it's not so much what your powers are, but how you use them that's important.

> "I think the whole thing is great for kids. It's about finding your own power within you and embracing it"
>
> BECKY RUSH

Some of the actors, mostly girls ages 7 to 15, are fans of famous Hollywood heroes like Batman, the Fantastic Four and 7-year-old Kinsley Yatnan's favorite, Black Widow from *The Avengers*. But you won't find any of those heroes on stage at this show.

Unlike in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,* which the Majestic recently produced, or in *Annie*, which 12-year-old Brook Flanders recently performed in, the characters in *Adventures of a Comic Book Artist* aren't well-known.

"It's really different," Flanders said. She plays Viola, the ditzy secretary at Wonder Comics. "In the other shows I've been in, they told you how to play the character. But with this, you can decide how to play your character, and here, there are some really different characters."

She pointed to one of the play's most pompous superheroes, Star Guy, who is very full of himself, constantly checking his hair and flexing his muscles, not unlike Gilderoy Lockhart from the *Harry Potter* series.

The play's setting is at Wonder Comics and its protagonist, Stanley Leonardo Sappovitz, played by 14-year-old Jessica McKenzie, is an aspiring comic book artist. He works as a janitor at Wonder Comics and anxiously awaits the day his boss, D.C. Wunderman, will see his drawings and allow his work to come alive on the printed page.

And his drawings do come alive, but not in the way he expected; in an effort to revive the faltering company, Wunderman had ordered a set of magical pens that promise to bring to life any character drawn. The writers unwittingly create a supervillain named Doctor Shock Clock.

In response, Stanley creates his own superheroes with the magical pen to fight the villain: Star Guy, whose powerful charisma ray causes people to fall at his knees and beg for autographs; a super-fast (though intellectually slow) Triple Time; a flower-power hero named Blossom; Wombat Woman, whose burrowing skills compare to no other; and a hero named Eraser Man.

The set will be minimal; show director Becky Rush talked of plans to project comic book-like scenes for the backdrop of the show, and each of the principal characters has her own theme song.

Local comic book stores have been extremely supportive of the show, said Karen Bessette, development director at the Majestic Theatre.

"We did reach out to a handful [of comic book stores] to ask if they'd advertise in the playbill for this show at an affordable rate. A couple are supporting our production, including Merrymac Games and Comics and comic book artist Emily Druin of Eplis Comic," Bessette wrote in an email. "They all were thrilled to see the kids doing a show with a comic book theme."

The show has been a treat for Rush, too — she's enjoyed seeing the kids embrace the creativity they've been given in their roles.

"The fact that nobody's seen it [the play] allows us some freedom to do our own thing and not be confined by public perception," Rush said. "It gives the kids an opportunity to really develop their own roles and take the characters really far. They can create their own versions of who they think the characters should be."

The powers these heroes command are perhaps not your most sought-after ones — the cast said they'd prefer, in real life, telepathy, flight or invisibility — but the message of the play, Rush said, is a poignant one.

"I think the whole thing is great for kids," Rush said. "It's about finding your own power within you and embracing it."



Cast members from *Adventures of a Comic Book Artist*. Courtesy photo.

See *Adventures of a Comic Book Artist*

Where: Samuel & May Gruber Recital Hall, Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester
When: Friday, March 14, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 15, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, March 16, at 2 p.m.
Tickets: $12 for adults, $10 for seniors and youth ages 17 and younger. Advanced reservations recommended, seating limited.
Contact: 669-7469, majestictheatre.net

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Theater

• ***EQUALLY DIVIDED*** shows at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 132 Warren St., Lowell, Mass., 978-654-7550, mrt.org, now through March 9. Tickets start at $20.

• ***I COULD JUST DIARY: TEEN ANGST, LIVE ONSTAGE*** featuring more than 15 local actors, writers, notable personalities reading their worst/most embarrassing/awkward journal entries live at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., on Fri., March 7, at 8 p.m. Tickets $15. Visit seacoastrep.org, call 433-4472. Parental discretion advised.

• ***THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND*** directed by Adam Young, produced by Bedford Off Broadway, on Fri., March 7, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 8 p.m.; Fri., March 14, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 15, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., March 16, at 2 p.m., at Old Bedford Town Hall, Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. Email bedfordoffbroadway@comcast.net. Tickets $12. Call 647-2864.

• **THE YOYO SHOW** with John Higby through Pontine Theatre (West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, pontine.org) on Sat., March 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets $12.

• ***LELISIR DAMORE*** Opera NH performance on Sat., March 8, at 7 p.m., at Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets $20-$75. Visit palacetheatre.org, call 668-5588.

• ***THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK*** at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, $16, March 7 through March 16. Visit rochesteroperahouse.com for times.

• **PLAYREADING/DISCUSSION: *RED*** on Sun., March 9, at 2 p.m., presented by theatre KAPOW!, written by John Logan. Free with admission, $12 for adults, $10 for seniors, $9 for students, $5 for youth, free for kids. Call 669-6144, visit currier.org.

• **PALACE YOUTH THEATRE: *SHREK THE MUSICAL*** at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Thurs., March 6, at 7 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 7 p.m.; and Thurs., March 13, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets $12. Call 668-5588, visit palacetheatre.org.

• **ANDREW PINARD: DISCOVERING MAGIC** on Wed., March 12, at 8 p.m.; Wed., April 9, at 8 p.m.; Wed., May 14, at 8 p.m.; and Wed., June 11, at 8 p.m., at Red River Theatres, Simchik Cinema, 11 S. Main St., Concord. Call 224-4697, visit redrivertheatres.org. Tickets $15 per person.

• **KENT STEPHENS' STAGE FORCE PRESENTS: THE PLAY READING SERIES** on Mon., March 10, at 7:30 p.m. Top professional actors read exceptional contemporary plays with no costumes, props, sets,

ARTS

CURTAIN CALL

Notes from the theater scene



Max Mueller, a young composer from Cleveland, Ohio, whose work will be performed by the Nashua Chamber Orchestra this weekend. Courtesy photo.

• **Warm up with music:** The Nashua Chamber Orchestra presents a program celebrating works by Mueller, Beethoven, Prokofiev and Haydn, with piano soloist Sang Woo Kang, on Saturday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m., in the Judd Gregg Hall, Nashua Community College, 505 Amherst St., Nashua, and on Sunday, March 9, at 3 p.m., in the Milford Town Hall, 1 Union Square, Milford Oval. Tickets are $18 for adults, $15 for seniors, $8 for students and free for children 12 and younger. Visit nco-music.org, call 582-5211.

• **New Dover studio for ballet company:** Northeastern Ballet Theatre celebrates the grand opening of its new Dover studio at the McConnell Center, 61 Locust St., Suite 239, this Saturday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to noon. The opening is in partial thanks to the City of Dover, which partnered with the theater company in helping to equip the facilities with a state-of-the-art dance floor, barres, and a top-of-the-line sound system, which was presented by local donors, according to the release. At the opening, visitors can enjoy refreshments, a short demonstration class and dance highlights from the company's upcoming ballet, *Snow White*. Tickets to the show will be available for purchase at the event, as well — the show is on Saturday, March 29, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, March 30, at 2 p.m., at Oyster River High School, 55 Coe Drive, Durham. Tickets are $17.50, visit northeasternballet.org.

• **Performing poetics:** High schoolers are in the midst of a state-wide performance poetry competition, with two more semi-final events at Southern New Hampshire University's Walker Auditorium, Robert Frost Hall, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester, on Friday, March 7, at 7 p.m., and at New England College's Simon Center, 98 Bridge St., Henniker, on Monday, March 10, at 7 p.m. These events will consist of high school champions competing to perform their memorized famous poems at Representatives Hall at the Statehouse in Concord on Thursday, March 13, at 7 p.m., with Virginia Prescott of New Hampshire Public Radio's "Word of Mouth" program serving as master of ceremonies. The winner will compete for New Hampshire at the Poetry Out Loud National Finals April 28 through April 30 in Washington, D.C., coinciding with National Poetry month. The semi-final events are free to attend; visit nh.gov/nharts or call 271-0795 for more information. — *Kelly Sennott*

special lighting, at the Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org. Tickets $12, includes house beverage.

• ***ADVENTURES OF A COMIC BOOK ARTIST*** presented by Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts Fri., March 14, through Sun., March 16, at the Samuel & May Gruber Recital Hall, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. Tickets $12. Visit majestictheatre.net, call 669-7469.

• **ANDREW PINARD: DISCOVERING MAGIC** at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord, on Wed., March 12, at 8 p.m.; Wed., April 9, at 8 p.m.; and Wed., June 11, at 8 p.m. Tickets $15. Call 224-4697, visit redrivertheatres.org.

• ***DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*** on Fri., March 21, at 7 p.m.; Sat., March 22, at 1 and 7 p.m., at Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester, etix.com, 472-3894, $15.

• ***ON GOLDEN POND*** performed at Leddy Center, 38C Ladd's Lane, PO Box 929, Epping, March 14 through March 23. Performances Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Sundays and March 19 at 2 p.m. Tickets $18. Visit leddycenter.org, call 679-2781.

• ***NEXT TO NORMAL*** contemporary musical about modern family dealing with effects of mental illness, at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, on Fri., March 7, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 8 p.m.; Sun., March 9, at 7 p.m.; Fri., March 14, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 15, at 2 and 8 p.m.; Sun., March 16, at 7 p.m.; Fri., March 21, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 22, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sun., March 23, at 2 p.m. Tickets $18. Visit playersring.org, call 436-8123. Following event on March 9 is post-show discussion with staff from Seacoast Mental Health Center and artist from the Art of Recovery program.

• ***THE LITTLE MERMAID, JR.*** on Fri., March 7, at 7 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 1 and 7 p.m.; and Sun., March 9, at 2 p.m., at Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry. Tickets $12, at kids-coop-theatre.org.

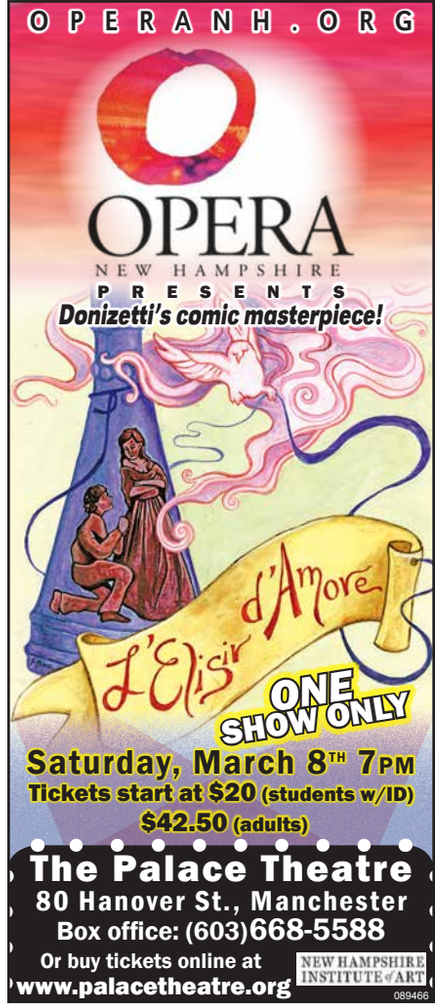
• **STAGED READING: *PROOF*** by David Auburn, read by Project Shakespeare on Fri., March 7, at Lucy Hurlin Theatre, ConVal High School (184 Hancock Road, Peterborough), and on Sat., March 8, at 7 p.m., at Jaffrey Civic Center (40 Main St., Jaffrey). Tickets $7.

• **CELTIC NIGHTS** performance by talented Irish dancers and singers at Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, on Sun., March 9, at 7 p.m. Tickets $34, reservations by calling 335-1992. Cash bar, under 18 accompanied by adult.

• **9TH ANNUAL ONE-ACT PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP AND FESTIVAL** performances on Thurs., March 13, at 7:30 p.m., and Fri., March 14, at 7:30 p.m., at Amato Center for the Arts, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Four new plays written by student playwrights on the theme, "faith." Tickets $5 at the door. Call 465-3456, email tobytarnow@yahoo.com.

• ***I AM JACK*** show by Australian Children's Theatre on Fri., March 14, at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., at Dana Center for the Humanities, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Call 641-







Drawn to Music

Classical music meets student art

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

At the New Hampshire Philharmonic's spring concert on Sunday, March 9, you can see exactly what local elementary and middle schoolers think of Gustav Mahler's "Song of a Wayfarer" — not only will their Mahler-inspired artwork be hanging in Palace Theatre's side gallery, it'll be blasted onstage via gigantic projection screen.

Since the Philharmonic's first Drawn to Music concert eight years ago, nearly 4,000 illustrations by children from 35 New Hampshire schools have been submitted. This year, interest was no different: more than 500 students submitted artwork, about 100 pieces of which will accompany the orchestral piece directed by Mark Latham this weekend.

> "[The students] get pretty electric when they look up and see their work on display."
>
> PAUL HOFFMAN

One intent of the program is to involve younger generations with the Philharmonic.

"They get pretty electric when they look up and see their work on display. They realize they're part of making this concert happen," New Hampshire Philharmonic Executive Director Paul Hoffman said in a phone interview.

But the illustrations do more than simply bring in shorter audience members. Many listeners, adults included, find the drawings help them better understand the performed works.

"The existence of the student artwork helps to enhance the experience for the adults in the concert hall," Hoffman said. "With some of the works we do, if you're just sitting down and hearing it for the first time, it can be a lot to take in. But what we find is that having the student artwork, quite honestly, is a really nice visual aid to what's really happening in the piece."

The art/music combo also keeps the crowd's youngest audience members rapt.

"It's an interesting thing. Often when you go into a concert hall, you'll see kids restless, impatient. But this is the quietest audience I've ever experienced. These kids are wrapped up in it, looking at the screen hanging over the orchestra while they play. They're very focused on the images, and because of that focus, the music is getting embedded in their ears as well," Hoffman said.

The interpretations in these images vary; some artists illustrated the backstory of "Songs of a Wayfarer" after reading about it on the New Hampshire Philharmonic's website. Others created something entirely new based on what they heard.

This program is one of many in the Philharmonic's efforts to make classical music more accessible to younger audiences. Another is the reduced ticket prices — all children and students can now attend the Philharmonic's concerts for $5 — and another is the group of new, fresh faces that will shine onstage come March 9. In addition to Mahler's work, which will be sung by guest vocalist Paul Max Tipton, the two winners of the orchestra's youth concerto competition, high school seniors Paul Bergeron and Zheyang Xiang, will present Brahms' Double Concerto (first movement).



One of the 100+ illustrations that will help tell Gustav Mahler's "Songs of a Wayfarer" at the New Hampshire Philharmonic Concert March 9. Courtesy image.

"It's very dynamic and it's very bold music," Bergeron said in a phone interview. "It's strong, powerful, and the string part is very virtuosic. There's a lot of excitement to it; it moves quite quickly, but it also has some very lyrical, singing melodies, which makes it very enjoyable."

Included on the night's schedule is Beethoven's Egmont Overture and, for the grand finale, Respighi's "Pines of Rome," which will be accompanied by a crowd of University of New Hampshire musicians.

"We were looking for a program that would be stimulating to players and enjoyed by the audience," Latham said in a phone interview. "The music itself changes a lot. It has many different aspects to it. … We'll have a bigger orchestra than usual for 'Pines of Rome,' which is a good thing, because it's a massive piece. We're ending with this great climactic finale with a huge orchestra. I don't think we've done it this big with the New Hampshire Philharmonic."

See the New Hampshire Philharmonic

Where: Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester
When: Sunday, March 9, at 4 p.m.
Admission: $12 to $50 depending on seating, but all children and students can receive tickets for $5.

7700, email dana@anselm.edu for pricing.

• **DANCING WITH THE STARS: BROADWAY MUSICALS MSMS GALA** local stars pair with professional dancers on Thurs., March 20, at 5:30 p.m., at Manchester Community College, 1066 Front St., Manchester, 206-8000.

• ***BEYOND THERAPY*** presented by Milford Area Players at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, on Fri., March 21, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 22, at 8 p.m.; Sun., March 23, at 2 p.m.; Fri., March 28, at 8 p.m.; Sat., March 29, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., March 30, at 2 p.m. Visit milfordareaplayers.org. Tickets $12.

• ***NEW YORK WATER*** presented by Stage One Productions at Chateau Event Center, 201 Hanover St., Manchester, on Fri., March 21, at 7:30 p.m. (curtain 8:45 p.m.); Sat., March 22, at 7:30 p.m. (curtain 8:45 p.m.); Sun., March 23, at 11:30 a.m. (curtain 1 p.m.). Dinner included, buffet style. Call 669-5511, email boxoffice@stageoneproductions.net for ticket prices.

• ***ROCK OF AGES*** at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com, on Sat., March 18, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets $35-$85.

• ***PETIT PAPILLON: THE ROOT CHILDREN*** presented by Petit Papillon Ballet Theatre on Fri., March 21, at 7 p.m., and Sat., March 22, at 2 p.m., at Concord Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Based on German 1906 story about the seasons and how they change. Tickets $12, group rates available. Visit petitpapillon.org.

Auditions/open calls

• **AUDITIONS:** ***THE JUNGLE BOOK KIDS*** on Sun., March 9, at 6 p.m., 7 p.m. or 8 p.m., at The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Call 668-5588 to make appointment. Participants will be asked to learn dance and sing a cappella (no CD/piano) after. Once cast, $100 fee.

• **AUDITIONS: ANDY'S SUMMER PLAYHOUSE 2014 SUMMER** season on Sun., March 9, at the Temple Elementary School (830 New Hampshire 45, Temple), and Sat., March 15, at the Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club (56 Mont Vernon Road, Milford). Audition sign-ups open, advanced registration required, andyssummerplayhouse.org. Ages 8 through 18. Informal, no prep necessary, one hour long. Call 654-2613, email info@andyssummerplayhouse.org.

• **AUDITIONS:** ***THE GLASS MENAGERIE*** Bedford Off Broadway, on Mon., March 10, at 7:15 p.m., and Tues., March 11, at 7:15 p.m., at Bedford Old Town Hall, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, show dates mid-May. Prepare 1-2 minute dramatic monologue; cold readings follow. Visit bedfordoffbroadway.com.

• **AUDITIONS: PALACE THEATRE TEEN COMPANY** on Mon., March 17, at 6 p.m., at Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, meganquinn@palacetheatre.org. Bring headshot, resume, prepare 16 bars of song your choice, bring clothes to move in. For performers ages 12 to 18 who want more intensive theater experience. Call to schedule audition time.

• **AUDITIONS:** ***CATCH ME IF YOU CAN*** by Stagecoach Productions on Sun., March 30, 6-8 p.m.; Mon., March 31, 7:30-9:30 p.m., at 14 Court St., Nashua. Be prepared to sing song in style of show. No monologue needed. Visit stagecoachproductions.org. Show dates June 20-22.

Classes for kids

• **SATURDAY STORIES** class by Majestic Theatre for kids 4-7 years old consecutive Saturdays, March 15 through April 19, 10-11 a.m., at The Majestic Studios, 922 Elm St., Manchester, tuition for 6 weeks is $70. majestictheatre.net, 669-7469.

ART

• **CURRIER AFTER HOURS: BOSTON TYPEWRITER ORCHESTRA** at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, event on Thurs., March 6, at 5:30 p.m. Concert featuring Boston Typewriter Orchestra. Free with museum admission, visit currier.org.

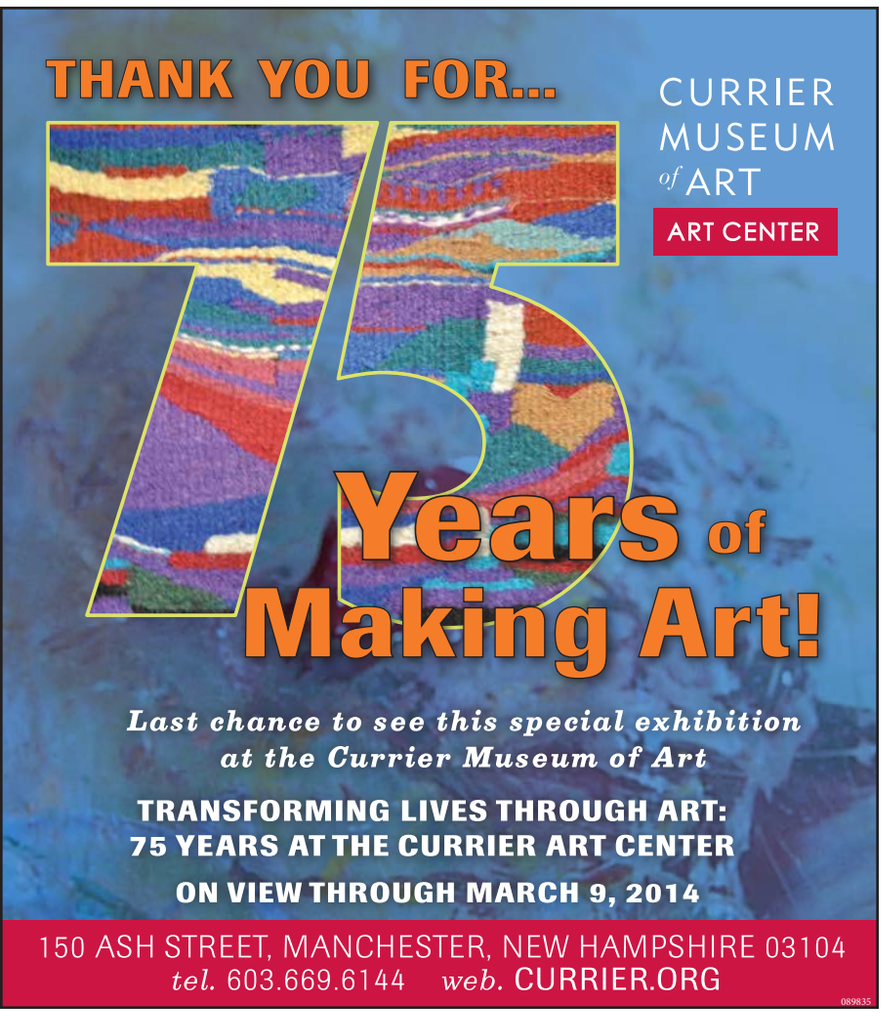
• **SOPHA OPEN HOUSE & STUDIO TOUR** on Fri., March 7, 5:30-6:30 p.m., meet members, take tour, at 15 Merrill St., Manchester.

• **FAMILY SATURDAY: BOOK SPINE POETRY** event at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, on Sat., March 8, at 10 a.m. Free with museum admission, visit currier.org.

• **TOAST THE DREAM SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER** Nikki's Dream event on Sat., March 8, 6-9 p.m., at The Center for Expressive Arts Therapy and Education, 141 Union St., Manchester. Improv performances, silent auction, raffles, music, raffles. Tickets $30 in advance, $35 at the door.


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ARTS

LOCAL — COLOR —

NH art world news



Main Street Art exhibits the journey of three locals and their trip to Tanzania. Courtesy photo.

• **Take a journey to Tanzania:** Maybe not literally, but through stories and a photo exhibition by New Hampshire residents and New Hampshire-born artists at the Main Street Art Gallery, 75 Main St., Newfields, from March 7 through March 28, with an opening reception on Friday, March 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. The show is comprised of work by three traveling photographers — Chris Keeley of Dover, Pat Kennedy Corlin of Strafford and Meagan Corlin Brogan, who was born in Strafford — and it tells of their trip to Tanzania and their work with The Giving Lens, an organizational effort to give back and educate through travel photography (thegivinglens.com). The aim of the exhibition, as described in an email by Corlin, is to inspire action.

Following this opening reception, on Saturday, March 8, from noon to 2 p.m., MSA is hosting the opening of the display by local students who created their own art inspired by the photographs in "Journey to Tanzania." Then, on Saturday, March 22, the photographers will hold a hands-on workshop from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Participants will make friendship boxes to be filled with school supplies, letters and artwork and shipped to help the communities displayed in the exhibition. Participants are requested to donate some school supplies to include in the boxes. All events are free to attend.

• **Natural art in a natural place:** Local artist and naturalist Betsy Janeway exhibits some of her watercolor paintings at the New Hampshire Audubon's McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, through March and April. Her paintings are of landscapes, places and things she holds dear, which includes painted scenes from most of the New Hampshire Audubon's 39 sanctuaries. Janeway has a long history with the Audubon as a volunteer and Board of Trustees member. Her display is part of the NH Audubon's centennial events and the "Welcome Back" series, which features work by former staff and volunteers from the Audubon. Visit nhaudubon.org, call 224-9909.

• **May Gruber Bequest:** When May Gruber, former head of the Manchester Pandora Industries and co-founder of Child Health Services and the Manchester Community Music School, died last year at the age of 100, she left many pieces of artwork from her personal collection to the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org). About one year after her death, the museum acquired these pieces and, now through May, about 20 of them — mostly drawings — will hang in the West, European and Contemporary Galleries. "She had a really wonderful collection, and we feel so fortunate she saw fit to give these to us," Steve Konick, director of PR and marketing, said in a phone interview. — *Kelly Sennott*

Visit castlecreate.com.

• **CURRIER JAZZ BRUNCH** on Sun., March 9, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, continental station, made-to-order omelets, pancakes, etc., currier.org, 669-6144, ext. 110, lpavlopoulos@currier.org, reservations recommended, $19.95 for adults, $6.95 for kids 10 and younger, $8.95 continental only.

• **COMICS IN WORLD HISTORY AND CULTURES** on Tues., March 11, at 7 p.m., at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, presentation by NH cartoonist Marek Bennett. He's also exhibitor in the library's March art exhibit celebrating NH illustrators.

• **FRIENDS OF AMHERST LIBRARY BUS TRIP** to Boston Flower & Garden Show on Wed., March 12, at 1:30 p.m. (depart) to 9 p.m. (return). Admission, bus ticket, driver gratuity costs $40. Need not be member of Amherst library. Call Jane Cosmo at 673-3192 for information on where to mail check.

• **WEDNESDAYS' WISDOM POTLUCK** at Kimball Jenkins School of Art, 266 N. Main St., Concord, on Wed., March 12, at 6 p.m., with speaker and NH poet laureate Alice Fogel. BYO (wine, beer, drinks, food), otherwise free event. RSVP by visiting kimballjenkins.com, calling 225-3932.

• **INTOWN CONCORD MEETING/ART AUCTION** on Thurs., March 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Kimball Jenkins School of Art, 266 N. Main St., Concord, Carriage House. Complimentary beverages, eats from Common Man, live jazz by Kenny Weiland, InTown update/awards ceremony and Concord art auction lead by McGowan Fine Art's Sarah Chaffee. Tickets $20 in advance, $25 at the door, visit bpt.me/570264.

• **FRANCOPHONIE** two-week celebration of all things French, March 7 through March 21. Indian Head Plaza Showrooms, 30 Temple St., Nashua, features noted artists of French heritage from Merrimack Valley including Dominique Boutaud, Ken Harvey, the Joneses, Monique Sakellarios, Marilene Sawaf, Albine Vermot-Gaud, Sandrine alias Sanya, Colson-Inam, Rufiya Blank, among others. Reception with refreshments on Tues., March 11, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Free admission. Email davidronaldjones@gmail.com.

• **MARSHALL ARISMAN** presents lecture, "The Space Between Illustration and Fine Art," on Thurs., March 20, at 6 p.m., at the NH Institute of Art's French Building auditorium, 148 Concord St., Manchester. Part of the school's Distinguished American Artists Discussing Art series, tickets $20. 836-2546, nhia.edu, jlafleur@nhia.edu.



CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY EARLY

String trio Annalivia plays at the Portsmouth Book and Bar (40 Pleasant St., Portsmouth, 427-9197, free admission, visit bookandbar.com) Thursday, March 6, at 9 p.m. and at the Franklin Opera House (316 Central St., Franklin) on Saturday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m., with tickets for $17. The band of Liz Simmons, Flynn Cohen and Duncan Wickel blends American roots with traditional Celtic and contemporary folk influences. Simmons also grew up in New Hampshire listening to her mother sing traditional songs from Ireland, Scotland, England and Appalachia and to her father playing New Orleans brass music. Courtesy photo.





Exhibit openings

• **"TIME OUT"** featuring sabbatical work by NHIA members on view at the Sharon Arts Center Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, March 7 through April 26. Reception on Fri., March 7, 5-7 p.m. Visit nhia.edu.

• **BETH WITTENBERG** exhibits watercolor art at Portable Pantry Cafe, 12 Hanson St., Rochester, 948-2035, through March 31. Reception on Fri., March 7, 7-9 p.m.

• **"JOURNEY TO TANZANIA"** collaborative exhibition by photographers Chris Keeley, Pat Kennedy Corlin and Meagan Corlin Brogan at Main Street Art, 75 Main St., Newfields, March 7 through March 28. Reception on Fri., March 7, 6-8 p.m., students reception on Sat., March 8, noon-2 p.m., and hands-on friendship box workshop for students from Tanzania on Sat., March 22, 12:30-2 p.m. Call 781-5916.

• **"CELEBRATING THE BOOK & ALL ITS LIVES"** features New Hampshire illustrators and authors at Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, amherstlibrary.org, on view now through March 28. Artists include Maryann Cocca-Leffler, Marty Kelley, Beth Krommes, JoAnn Kitchel, David McPhail, Marek Bennett, Jill Weber, Cynthia Copeland, Denise Ortakales and others. Reception/book signing on Sun., March 9, 2-4 p.m.

In the galleries

• **"TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH ART: 75 YEARS AT THE CURRIER ART CENTER"** on view at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, through March 9. Visit currier.org, call 669-6144.

• **NH FURNITURE MASTERS WINTER SHOW** on view at the NHFMA gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord, through March 10. furnituremasters.org.

• **"LIGHT FORMS"** art by Professor Harry Umen at Great Bay Community College Gateway Gallery, on view through March 14. Art fuses physical and digital materials. Visit greatbay.edu, call 427-7713, email abrennan@ccsnh.edu.

• **"LIGHT FORMS"** work by NH digital artist Harry Umen on view at the Gateway Gallery at Great Bay Community College, 427-7713, greatbay.edu, abrennan@ccsnh.edu, now through March 14.

• **"TURN OF THE CENTURY PRINTS AND PAINTINGS"** by Loretta CR Hubley on view at the second floor gallery at UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester, through March 14. Call 641-4101.

• **"UNSEEN IN THE CITY"** photography show of uncommon views of people/places in Manchester, on view at Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester, through March 15. Visit 550arts.com, call 232-5597, email info@550arts.com.

• **"HOT STUFF: FEEL THE HEAT"** multimedia exhibition at the League of NH Craftsmen Craft Center, 49 S. Main St., Suite 100, Concord, now through March 21. Visit nhcrafts.org.

• **"THE LANDSCAPE: A CANVAS OF COLOR"** featuring artwork by Marcia Blakeman and Jerrie Lawson at East Colony Fine Art, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 621-7400, through March 22.

• **"THAW"** group show with new art at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515, mcgowanfineart.com, jessica@mcgowanfineart.com, now through March 28.

Classical

• **BACH'S LUNCH SERIES** lecture, "Jazz Genealogy Jam" by Matt Langley on Thurs., March 6, at 12:10 p.m., at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Concert on Thurs., March 13, 12:10-12:50 p.m., "Jazz Generations," also at the school, performed by Matt Langley, David Tonkin, Scott Kiefner, Michael Sink. Free, call 228-1196, visit ccmusicschool.org.

• **MARCH MANDOLIN FESTIVAL CONCERT** on Sat., March 8, at 7:30 p.m., at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, performance by Joe Walsh, Marla Fibish, Eric McDonald and David Surette, with guest Susie Burke. $15, 228-1196, ccmusicschool.org.

• **MANCHESTER COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL SPRING RECITAL** on Sat., March 8, 1-2 p.m., at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Part of Family Saturday program, museum admission free from 10 a.m. to noon for NH residents.

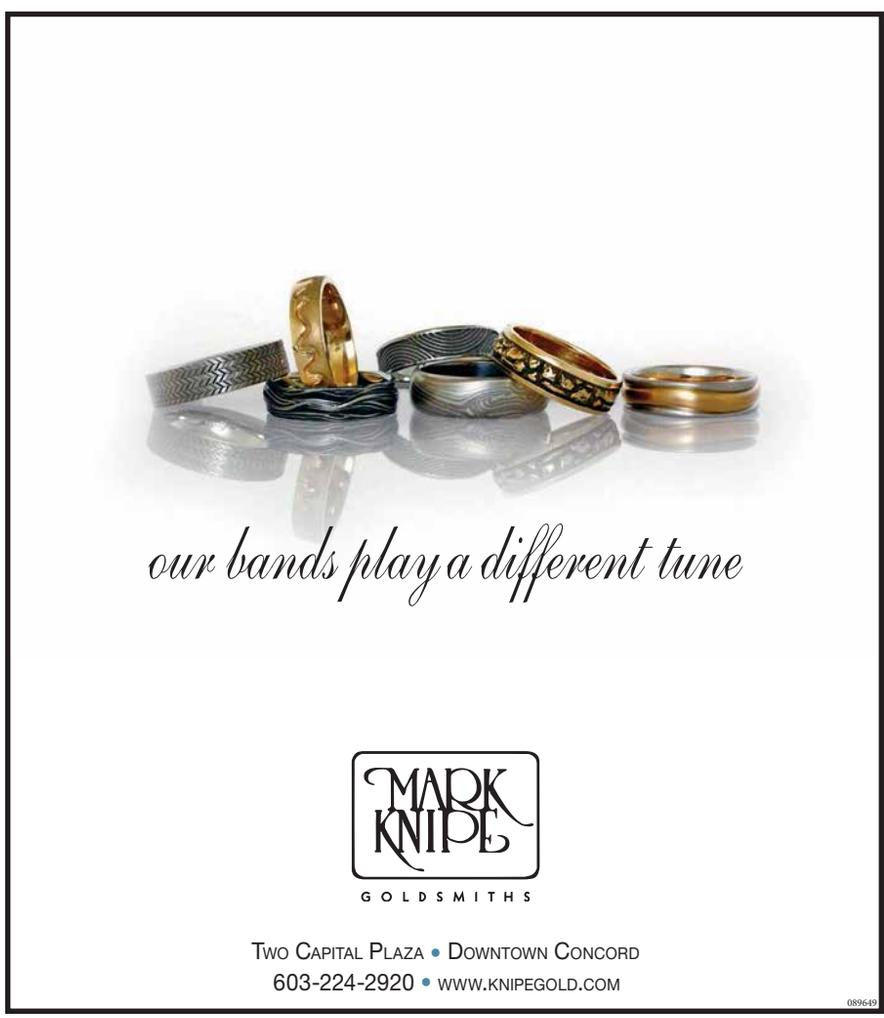
• **NASHUA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA WINTER CONCERT** on Sat., March 8, at 7:30 p.m., in Judd Gregg Hall, Nashua Community College, 505 Amherst St., Nashua, and Sun., March 9, at 3 p.m., at Milford Town Hall, 1 Union Square, Milford Oval. Tickets can be purchased at door or in advance, $18, nco-music.org, 582-5211. Works by Mueller, Beethoven, Prokofiev and Haydn, featuring piano soloist Sang Woo Kang.

• **NEW HAMPSHIRE PHILHARMONIC** performs with guest vocalist Paul Max Tipton and two winners of youth concerto competition on Sun., March 9, at 4 p.m., at Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets are $12 to $50. Call 668-5588, visit nhphilharmonic.org.

• **DANU** performs on Tues., March 11, at 7:30 p.m., at Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com. Tickets $10-$30.

• **MERRIMACK MUSIC** showcasing NH's top young musical artists at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord, free, for all ages. Ellen Theresa Fagan performs on Sun., March 9, at 3 p.m., Lauren Hurley at 4 p.m.; The MICA-SEV Project performs on Sun., March 16, at 3 p.m., Ian Ethan at 4 p.m.; Joel Morse and Freeland Hubbard performs on Sun., March 23, at 3 p.m., Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki and Matt Jensen at 4 p.m. Visit concordcommunityconcerts.org.





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Get Listed

From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

On your mark, get set, crawl!

Diaper derby comes to the mall

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com



Winning babies at last year's Diaper Derby. Courtesy photo.

On all fours, babies will crawl — hopefully in a straight line, and quickly — toward the Diaper Derby finish line at the Mall of New Hampshire this weekend.

Each child gets his own colored lane, and parents will try to coax the babies to the finish line first to win the derby, now in its second year.

"The babies have to be crawling — they cannot be walking yet," said Rebecca Murphy, director of marketing and business development at the mall.

The top finishers from each heat move on to the finals. The top three finishers in the finals will be awarded trophies at an award ceremony.

Murphy said the idea for the derby started with one of their sister malls, South Shore Plaza down in Braintree, Mass.

"It's a really fun day for the whole family to come out to the mall at no cost," Murphy said. "People definitely get into the competition."

Last year, Murphy said, some moms made matching T-shirts for the baby and the family, and one mom had matching sweatbands.

"It's very cute," Murphy said. "And it's fun to come and watch even if you don't have a crawler in your life."

Aside from the baby race, there will be vendors at the event and stores within the mall participating in family-based promotions. Parents will be able to talk with vendors about clothing and services, and there will be health organizations there with children's programs as well as some information about kids' camps.

"The vendors are very family focused," Murphy said. "We know a lot of parents will have a crawler and maybe a child that's 6 years old as well."

Josh Heinzl, president and CEO of Josh's Toys & Games, made sure his company would be at the Diaper Derby again this year.

"I love doing community outreach, and I love doing things that are fun," Heinzl said. "It goes hand in hand with what our mission is."

Josh's Toys & Games will set up at the derby with a number of games for kids to play.

"There's stuff for kids and adults — we have a little bit of everything," Heinzl said.

The Picture People will take pictures of the race and individual baby portraits for parents, and Motherhood Maternity will be giving out goodie bags. There will be prizes from Build-a-Bear and Things Remembered, and Murphy is hoping to put on a kids' fashion show as well. There will also be a mommy-and-me lounge for babies and their mothers before the race, as well as a craft area and face painting for older children.

Parents of children no older than 12 months are eligible to sign their child up for the race now. Those who register early will receive a goody bag with the Diaper Derby logo on it filled with coupons and samples from mall stores.

Diaper Derby

Where: Mall of New Hampshire, Manchester, center court
When: Saturday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Cost: Free
Contact: 669-0434 or visit simon.com/mall/the-mall-of-new-hampshire

Crafts

Fairs/Exhibits

• **ECO EXPO AND CRAFT FAIR** at the Gossler Park Elementary School (99 Sullivan St., Manchester, 242-1583) on Sat., March 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be handmade crafts and food to benefit the Gossler Park Eco Club.

• **STAND UP LACONIA CRAFT FAIR** at Laconia High School (345 Union Ave, Laconia, jfarrar@laconiaschools.org) on Sat., March 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds go to drug awareness and prevention.

• **SPRING CRAFT AND SPECIALTY FOOD FAIR** at Rockingham Park Racetrack (79 Rockingham Park Blvd, Salem, castleberryfairs.com) on Sat., March 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and again on Sun., March 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is $7 and tickets are good for both days.

Jewelry/beading

• **FELTED SPIRAL BEAD** class on Sat., March 8, from noon to 3 p.m. at the League of NH Craftsmen at the Meredith Retail Gallery (279 Daniel Webster Highway, Meredith, 279-7920, nhcrafts.org/meredith). Class fee is $50 with a $10 material fee.

Pottery & Clay

• **POLYMER CLAY VASE** The League of NH Craftsmen (98 Main St., Nashua, 595-8233, nhcrafts.org) will have a clay vase workshop on Sat., March 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is $30 and materials are $10. Ages 12 and up.

Quilting

• **TOMORROW'S HEIRLOOMS** biennial quilt show at Manchester Memorial High School (1 Crusader Way, Manchester, amoskeagqg.org) on Sat., March 22, and Sun., March 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is $6 (free for children 12 and under).

Scrapbooking & paper

• **HOMEMADE PAPER COVERED NOTEBOOKS** workshop at the Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 3886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org) on Thurs., March 6, at 6:30 p.m.

Health and Wellness

Workshops, seminars & events

• **JUDY'S JOURNEY** at the Hooksett Library (31 Mt. St. Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org) on Thurs., March 6, at 6:30 p.m. Author Earle Whitcher will discuss his memoir about his wife's battle with breast cancer.

• **COMMUNITY TRAINING** to prevent sexual abuse on Thurs., March 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. with Nikki's Dream for Wellness and Education (141 Union St., Manchester). This workshop will help individuals to learn about the impact that sexual abuse has and learn ways to help.

• **SURGICAL WEIGHT LOSS INFORMATION SESSION** at St. Joseph Hospital (172 Kinsley St., Nashua, 595-3168, stjosephhospital.com/class) on Thurs., March 6, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. This free session requires pre-registration; call or go online.

• **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY** presentation with Dr. Kimberly Higney of the Cardea Center welcomes Janice Anderson on Thurs., March 6, at 7 p.m. at the Cardea Center of Well-Being (390 Portsmouth Ave., Greendland, 433-2023, cardeawellbeing.com). The presentation will be about breast health. Cost is $25.

• **TEENS ON TANNING FORUM** at Pitman's Freight Room (94 New Salem St., Laconia) on Fri., March 7, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. High school students are encouraged to come learn about melanoma. Admission is free. There will also be another forum on Sat., March 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Red River Theatres (111 S. Main St., Concord). Visit mfne.org?prevent-melanoma/teens-on-tanning-forums.

IN/OUT

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend



Make something

The Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 642-2002, childrens-museum.org) will have an **Iron Chef Pizza Challenge** on Sunday, March 9. Children ages 4 to 7 will compete from 1 to 2 p.m. and ages 8 to 12 will compete from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Parents should pair up with their kids to make the best pizza. Cost is $20. Registration is required.

The Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org) will have a **crazy craft day** on Saturday, March 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kids of all ages are welcome to come in and make crafts while supplies last. Registration is not required.

Playing around

The Bedford Parks and Recreation Department (55 Constitution Drive, Bedford, 472-5242, bedfordreconline.com) will have a **Koala Bear Playgroup** on Friday, March 7, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Infants and preschoolers can come to play with others. There will be a parachute time, snack time and music and dancing. The playtime is free and located at the Bedford Town Hall.

Water and ice

The **Manchester Monarchs** will play at the Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester, 626-7825, manchestermonarchs.com) on Friday, March 7, at 7 p.m. vs. the Adirondack Phantoms. On Saturday, March 8, at 3 p.m. the Monarchs will against the Providence Bruins and on Sunday, March 9, at 3 p.m. they will play the Hartford Wolf Pack.

The Nashua YMCA (24 Stadium Drive, Nashua, 882-2011, nmymca.org) will have an **open family swim time** at the pool on Saturday, March 8, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Admission for a day to the YMCA is $10 for adults and from $1 to $5 for children depending on their age.

Science and nature

The Hollis Public Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org) will host Eric Masterson on Saturday, March 8, at 3 p.m. for a **bird watching presentation**. Masterson will talk for 45 minutes about techniques for looking for bird species in the wild.

The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-7827, starhop.com) will have a **workshop to study asteroids** with NASA Solar System Ambassador Ted Bank, on Friday, March 7, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 for adults and $7 for children. There will also be a free outdoor telescope viewing, weather permitting.

Showtime

John Higby of **The YoYo Show** will perform with his wife at the Pontine Theatre (959 Islington St., Portsmouth, pontine.org) on Saturday, March 8, at 2 p.m. The duo will perform fun yoyo tricks as well as hula hooping and unicycling. Tickets are $12.

James and the Giant Peach will be playing at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) on Saturday, March 8, at 2 p.m.

• **ASK A NUTRITIONIST** The Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, concordfoodcoop.coop/nutritionist) will hold a free class with a registered dietitian on how to eat healthier on Sat., March 8, from noon to 2 p.m, Tues., March 25, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Sat., April 5, Tues., April 29, Sat., May 3 and Tues., May 27, from noon to 2 p.m.

• **LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S** at the Aging Resource Center (36 Centerra Parkway, Acworth, 606-6590) on Sat., March 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. will be a three-part program about how to cope with Alzheimer's disease.

• **HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT** at the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherstlibrary.org) will help those interested in learning about health insurance and how to enroll in it on Mon., March 10, March 17, March 17, March 24 and March 31, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

• **ACHIEVING A HEALTHY WEIGHT** Concord Fire Department Headquarters (24 Horseshoe Pond Lane, Concord, 225-6840, concordfoodcoop.coop/classes) will hold a free class about how to exercise on Tues., March 11, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Registration is required.

• **AFFORDABLE CARE ACT INFORMATION** at the Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derrypl.org) on Wed., March 12, at 6:30 p.m. This is the last call before the enrollment deadline on March 31. Visit healthcare.gov. Registration is required. Call to find out what materials are needed.

• **ENERGETIC STRESS ASSESSMENT** at the Holistic Self Care Center (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, 883-1490, thehsccenter.com) on Wed., March 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The assessment will help with the overal health of your organs and systems.

• **ANGEL HEALING CIRCLE** with Barbara Moura at the Holistic Self Care Center (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, 883-1490, thehsccenter.com) on Wed., March 12, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be dicussions and mediatation. Cost is $15.

• **OCD AND FAMILY** with George Samuels on Thurs., March 13, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, manchester.lib.nh.us). Learn about OCD

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Thinking of spring

Start a few seeds

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com



I'm not sick of winter yet. But I have to admit that recent warm, sunny days got me thinking about spring. I love to start seedlings in the house but recognize that it is still too early for most things. I have a couple of artichoke seedlings growing in a large pot and will start some onions and peppers by mid-March.

The problem with starting seeds too early is that it is hard to meet the needs of your seedlings until the soil warms up enough to plant them outdoors. I have fluorescent lights and a nice plant stand. But as plants grow, they need bigger pots for their roots. As I start about 300 plants most years, I cannot give each of my babies its own 3- or 4-inch pot after they outgrow the six-packs many of them are started in. The solution? Start most things just six to eight weeks before they go outside – which for tomatoes and other frost-sensitive plants is, for me, June 1 or even later.

Most commercial seed-starting mixes are made of peat moss, perlite (a fluffy white substance that looks like Styrofoam), and some soluble chemical fertilizer. The assumption is that the mix will get plants off to a good start by providing a fluffy medium for young roots – but that you, the grower, will supply the "food" that your seedlings want after the first month.

After a month the chemical fertilizer will have either washed away or been used up. So what should an organic gardener do? There are fish or seaweed derived liquid fertilizers that you can dilute and add to the water you apply. They will supply the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium found in a chemical fertilizer, and they will also supply calcium, magnesium, and many other chemical elements needed by your seedlings in small quantities.

Another solution, and one I favor, is to make a 50-50 mix of commercial potting mix with compost. My compost pile is frozen solid, but a good commercial compost such as Moo-Doo will do just fine — it will have healthy microorganisms in it. These bacteria and fungi help to process organic matter and turn it into chemicals that are easily absorbed and used by your seedlings.

Another technique is to make soil blocks using a small metal press to create 2-inch cubes of a packed soil mixture. This technique is more work, but provides high-quality nutrition to your plants, and minimizes root shock when planted outdoors — seedlings grown in plastic six-packs usually have tangled roots by the time they go outdoors, but plants started in soil blocks will not.

To make enough mix for about 300 blocks, mix the following ingredients in a wheelbarrow:

10 quarts of dry peat moss
1/4 cup limestone
1 cup azomite or granite dust (optional)
Then add and mix well:
10 quarts coarse sand,
10 quarts of peat humus,
1/2 cup colloidal or rock phosphate
1/2 cup greensand
1/2 cup organic blood meal
Finally add and mix well:
8 quarts of compost (your own or purchased) 8 quarts of garden soil or purchased topsoil.

The mix is somewhat dry, and needs to be moistened and used in small batches. For a start, mix 4 quarts of mix with 1 to 2 quarts of water, stirring it with your hand (wearing a rubber glove). It should be gooey, but firm, not watery. Experiment with it until you find just the right consistency.

To make the blocks, make a pile of the gooey stuff 4 to 5 inches deep in a recycling bin or other flat-bottomed container. Then compress it by squishing it with the block maker, which makes four 2-inch cubes at a time. Fill up the cavities of the blocker, and then get rid of any excess by pushing the block maker down and rotating it against the bottom of the bin.

You can eject the blocks with the squeeze of the spring-equipped handle into in a standard black plastic flat, which will just hold 32 blocks. Line up the rows of blocks so that they do not touch. Block makers are available from Johnny's Seeds and the Fedco Seed Company. And if you don't want to make your own mix, some companies such as Grow Compost of Vermont are making a mix suitable for block makers.

Starting seeds is not for everyone, but I love it. It keeps me from getting squirrely as winter morphs into mud season while waiting for the snow and ice to disappear. Give it a try if you haven't.

Henry Homeyer is a gardening teacher, coach and public speaker. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. Please include a stamped envelope if sending a real letter.

IN/OUT TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I thought you would be interested in seeing this. I read your column all the time and think you will appreciate this. It belonged to my dad, or at least he had it for many years — as long as I can remember it was hung in our basement.

It doesn't look like much, but it is a pile of prescriptions dating back to the early 1900s. I wish I had asked more questions of how it got there and why my dad kept it, but now he is gone and I am trying to figure out what to do with it.

Do you know anyone who might have an interest in this? How much would something like this be worth?

Michelle of Keene



Dear Michelle,

What an interesting piece.

I am not sure what your market would be for this. If it was just the antique prescriptions separately, without being strung this way, I would say no one. But to me, the form of this and the age — the patina is magnificent.

I would like to know the story behind why someone saved these if they weren't a pharmacist — and I assume he wasn't or you probably would have mentioned it. Nonetheless, it was saved, and now, a hundred years later, we are trying to figure out what to do with it.

Let's talk value first and how to come to one. I think the age and form make it unique to a collector of medical items. Even decoratively it is pleasing. I would say the value would be in the range of $60 to $100 for the right person.

Sometimes values aren't based on knowledge but rather on oddity, age, form and rarity. I would think there are probably not many of these around, which makes this rare. And to me that makes it interesting enough for the value. It might not be a simple sell, but the right person would find it worth having.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

and its treatments.

• **LYME DISEASE CLINIC** at the Holistic Self Care Center (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, 883-1490, thehsccenter.com) will be on Tues., March 18, from 6 to 7 p.m. This free clinic will be a support group for those suffering from Lyme disease and discuss treatment options.

• **THE BASICS:** memory loss, Dementia, Alzheimer's disease at Alzheimer's Association (5 Bedford Farms Drive, Bedford, alz.org) on Wed., March 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Attendees will learn about the disease and treatment options.

Misc

Bake/yard sales/ fundraisers/auctions

• **COMMUNITY INDOOR YARD SALE** with the Bedford Women's Club on Sat., March 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the McKelvie School (108 Liberty Hill, Bedford).

• **BASKETS FOR BOOKS** at the Exeter Public Library (4 Chestnut St., Exeter, 772-3101, exeterlibrary.com) on Fri., March 21, at 5:30 p.m. There will be a dinner and a silent auction.

• **INDOOR YARD SALE** with the Friends of the Weare Public Library at Weare Town Hall (16 North Stark Highway, Weare, 529-2044) on Sat., March 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donors may drop off items on Fri., March 28, from 1 to 6 p.m. No furniture or clothing.

Expos/festivals/fairs

• **HOME BUYER FAIR** on Sat., March 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel (Manchester). Admission is free. There will be educational seminars and people will be able to meet with realtors and lenders.

• **OLD HOUSE AND BARN EXPO** on March 15 and March 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel (Manchester). Tickets are $10. Explore garden, architecture, history and preservation strategies.

• **MAGICKAL MARKETPLACE AND PSYCHIC FAIRE** will take place on Sat., March 29, from noon to 7 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel (11 Tara Blvd., Nashua, themagickalmarketplace.com). Admission is $6 but with a donation of a nonperishable food item, price is $4.

• **ASTROLOGY AND PSYCHIC FAIR** at the Roundabout Diner (Portsmouth traffic circle, Portsmouth) on Sun., March 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is $30 for a 20 minute reading.

Other

• **OPTIONS FOR ELECTRICITY** on Thurs., March 6, at 6:45 p.m. at the Rye Public Library (581 Washington Road, Rye, 964-8401, ryepubliclibrary.org). Christophe Courchesne and Julie Lapham will discuss how the energy market is changing and how it affects our lives and the environment.

• **THE YOYO SHOW** with John Higby at the Pontine Theatre (959 Islington St., Ports-

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Flyer etiquette



Dear Tom and Ray:

I never thought you dealt with questions of automotive etiquette, but you recently ran a letter from a man who preferred that his neighbor not park in front of his house, so I'm going to raise my own question of automotive etiquette.

Since the mid-1970s, I've belonged to various clubs for owners of one make of car or another. I was in the printing industry at the time, and I produced recruitment flyers, which other club members and I would leave under the windshield wipers of parked cars. The flyers were a very effective recruiting tool, because they were given only to people who owned those specific cars. And at least some of the recipients reacted positively to them. In the past 15 years, I haven't belonged to a car club, but I'm on a website for owners of a particular make of car. I got the idea of printing business-card-size cards with the URL for the site and briefly spelling out the benefits: a listserv, a list of recommended mechanics, a list of recommended parts sources.

I would think that a rational person who got one of these cards and bothered to read it would say: "Aha! Someone is trying to give me helpful information, as one car owner to another," even if he or she had no interest in the site. I'll grant that if the recipient isn't interested in the site, then disposing of the card is an inconvenience, but it's a very small one.

On a few occasions, I've encountered the owner as I was about to leave a card, or just after leaving the card, and the owner was fairly surly about the whole thing. One prospective recipient said, "Whoa, what are you doing to my car?" and seemed quite irritated even after I politely explained what the card was all about.

Granted, a car owner who hasn't yet read the card can't be expected to guess what it is, but how terrible could it be? I figure there's no point in arguing with the car owner in these situations, but I always want to say, "I'm not hurting you, or the car!" I think the surliness is completely uncalled for. I occasionally get advertising flyers on my windshield. On one occasion I caught someone in the act of leaving a flyer (for a gym that I had no interest in joining).

It literally has never even occurred to me to get angry about this. What do you think? — Andrew

TOM: I think people are surlier these days, especially when it comes to being "marketed to."

RAY: Thirty years ago, our phones weren't ringing all day with recorded sales pitches to visit condos we don't want in Del Boca Vista, Fla. Our computer browsing wasn't interrupted by pop-up ads for weight-loss panties. Our email boxes (we didn't have email boxes!) weren't overflowing with Viagra ads.

TOM: Oh, yeah? Forward that to me, would you?

RAY: Combine that with the fact that most things left on our windshields ARE unwanted junk, and I think you are more likely to get a grouchy reaction these days.

TOM: There also are issues of personal safety that you're tiptoeing into. Between local TV news and the Internet, we hear about every weirdo who gets caught in a tutu and a bozo wig now, and it's no wonder some people are also apprehensive around strangers who approach them.

RAY: In addition to all the things that make people more jumpy these days, you also have people who are just ... what's the word for it? Jerks. So maybe the guy you ran into just woke up on the wrong side of the couch that his wife made him sleep on that day and felt like barking at somebody.

TOM: But I agree with you, Andrew, that you're doing a nice thing for people, and I wouldn't let a few crabs dissuade you.

RAY: You want the email I got about crabs, too?

TOM: I think a big smile is probably your best defense. I would find a way to explain what you're doing as quickly as possible, to immediately defuse any suspicion.

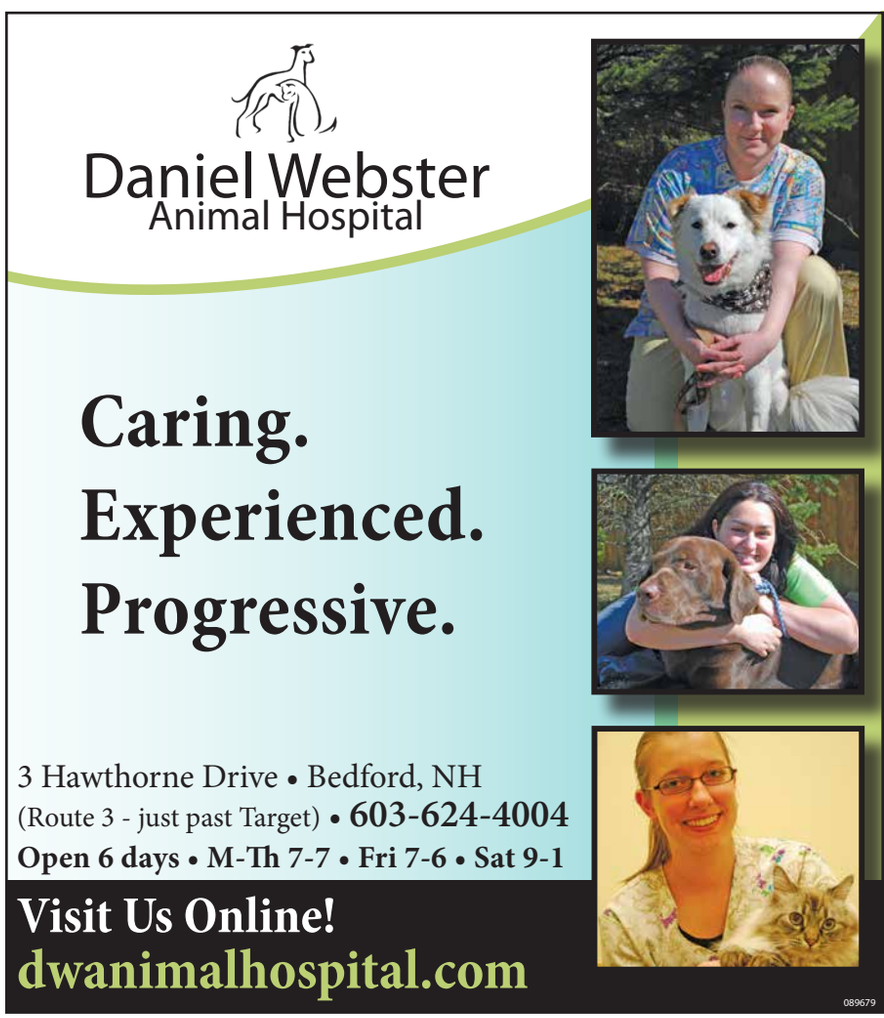
RAY: For instance, if someone looks concerned or asks what you're doing at their car, you might start out by saying: "Oh, hi. I have the same car, and there's a club for owners, which I was just leaving you a note about. I'm not selling anything."

TOM: Or if you want to stir things up and have a little fun, try saying: "Oh, hi. I have the same car, and I was just helping myself to your windshield-wiper assembly."

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IN/OUT

A more even keel

Mountains too scary? Try cross-country skiing

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

Peter Goedecke spends a lot of his free time coaching at the Bedford Cross Country Ski Club.

When Goedecke was younger, he and his father started the club in order to fuel a growing passion when his high school cut its program.

After trying to build trails elsewhere, they ended up in Bedford at Legacy Park and started from scratch.

Now, the Bedford club supports many high school ski clubs and provides lessons and equipment to anyone who wants to try cross-country skiing recreationally.

"Here, skiers will help skiers," Goedecke said.

Learning how to ski is based on how you feel comfortable. Goedecke said there are usually two techniques: the classic technique where you shuffle the skis straight as if you are just walking and the technique that resembles ice skating, where your skis flare out as if you are ice skating.

"You can have fun and just move around or you can go incredibly fast if you want to," Goedecke said. "We arguably have the best ski trails in southern New Hampshire for racing."

All trails are open to the public and range from easy to expert. There's also a ball field to ski around on.

"The trails are so varied that you really enjoy them and never get tired of them," Goedecke said.

At Gunstock Mountain Resort, they take the sport of cross-country skiing a step further. Dogs are man's best friend, so why not bring them along? The mountain offers skijoring, a hands-free cross-country skiing experience with your dog and a skijoring harness.

Bill Quigley, director of sales and marketing at Gunstock Mountain Resort, said skijoring might be an adventure for more experienced cross-country skiers. The mountain also offers regular cross-country skiing lessons for those who are looking to get that experience in technique and handling turns.

For beginners, "It's best to head to a cross-country skiing center that has been groomed for learning," Quigley said. "If you head out to a golf course, it may not be groomed, which reduces the learning curve."

Each lesson at the mountain includes rental boots and a trail pass. The instructors will explain proper boot fitting, how to fit the boot into the ski binding and how to slide, Quigley said.

"It really is the best way to get up and going for learning. We are recognized as one of the better facilities in the state," Quigley said.

For people who know what they're doing, any cross-country trails or fields can work.

"Down here in southern New Hampshire, if the rocks are covered, we're all pretty happy," Goedecke laughed.

However, Goedecke said, wet snow is not ideal because it'll slow you down. Old snow that's fallen or packed down works best if you're going for speed.

Right now, the conditions at Gunstock are good, Quigley said.

"If you're going to learn, now is a great time to do so," he said. "We've got an extensive trail network. ... We have a sheer amount of terrain and it gives great variety. The access is simple and we're able to accommodate if someone wanted to take a lesson in the evening."

Quigley also said his "biggest tip is really just to go out and have fun. Take your time and don't expect to go to the Olympics. That's not our instructors' goal either. The goal is just to get you out and sliding and enjoying the course."

Goedecke said cross-country skiing can be learned at any age.

"It's a life-long sport. It's amazing what you can still do on skis [when you're older]," Goedecke said. "You can ski forever. It's really low-impact and it's rare to get a serious injury."

A few good cross-country skiing trails

- **Bear Brook State Park**
Where: 157 Deerfield Road, Allenstown
Contact: 485-9874
Visit: nhstateparks.com
- **Beaver Brook Association**
Where: 117 Ridge Road, Hollis
Contact: 465-7787
Visit: beaverbrook.org
- **Carter Hill Orchard**
Where: 73 Carter Hill Road, Concord
Contact: Bill Mitchell at 228-8493
Visit: carterhillapples.com
- **Derryfield Golf Course**
Where: 625 Mammoth Road, Manchester
Contact: 669-0235
Visit: derryfieldgolf.com
- **Gould Hill Farm**
Where: 656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook
Contact: 746-3811
Visit: gouldhillfarm.com
- **Gunstock Mountain Resort**
Where: 719 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford
Cost: $40 for lessons
Contact: 293-4341
Visit: gunstock.com
- **Lake Massabesic**
Where: 26 Audubon Way, Auburn
Contact: 668-2045
Visit: nhaudubon.org
- **Legacy Park Trails**
Where: 200 New Boston Road, Bedford
Contact: info@bxcsc.org or visit bxcsc.org

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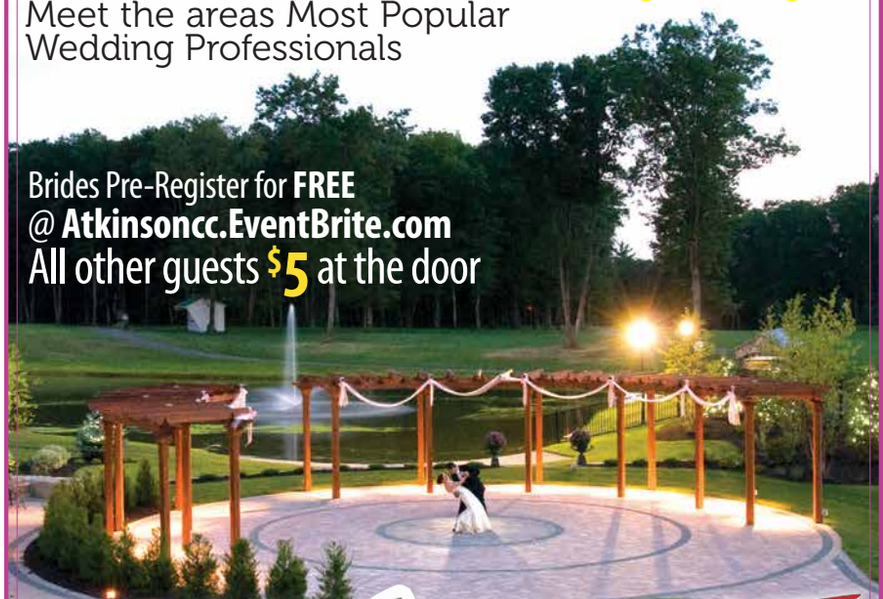
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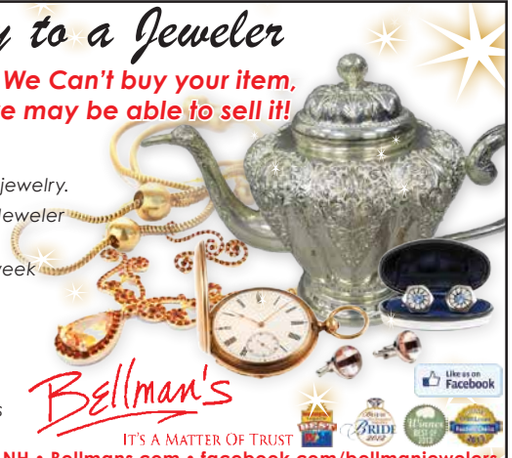
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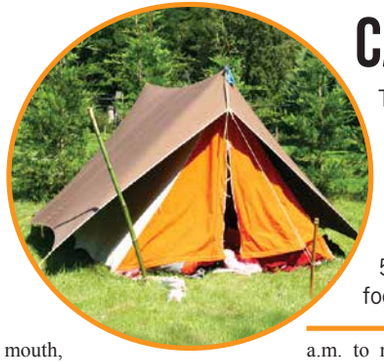
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CAMPING AND RV

The New Hampshire Camping and RV Show will be on Friday, March 7 through Sunday, March 9 at The Hampshire Dome (50 Emerson Road, Milford). Friday the show will be open from 1 to 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are $9. Bring a non-perishable food item to get $2 off.

mouth, pontine.org)
Sat., March 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets are $12. There will be fun yoyo tricks as well as hula hooping and unicycling.

• **WZID WOMEN'S EXPO** at the Verizon Wireless Arena (755 Elm St., Manchester, 669-5777, verizonwirelessarena.com) will feature over 120 vendors, food and prizes, and Tony Dovolani from *Dancing with the Stars* will be there on Sat., March 8, at 10 a.m. Tickets are $7.

• **CHEERS TO FRIENDSHIP** with Best Buddies on Sun., March 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Wentworth Country Club (60 Wentworth Road, Rye, 724-4384, bestbuddies.org). Tickets are $75 per person, $40 for staff and $25 for students. Money will benefit best buddies programs in New Hampshire schools.

• **WHY STUDY ASTROLOGY** with astro-therapist and author Amy Shapiro at the Roundabout Diner (Portsmouth traffic circle, Portsmouth) on Tues., March 11, at 6:30 p.m. Cost is $10 and $5 for students. Learn how astrology plays a part in your life.

• **NH GRANITE STATE AMBASSADORS** certification program will be on Mon., March 10 and Tues., March 11, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Southern NH University (2500 N. River Road, Hooksett, nhgsa.com). The training is $35 and includes lessons, lunch and materials as well as prizes and tours.

• **MENTOR ORIENTATION** to become a mentor with the Friends Youth Mentoring Program (202 N. State St., Concord, 228-1197, friendsprogram.org) on Fri., March 14, 4:30 to 7 p.m. Register by March 7.

• **FIRST AMENDMENT COALITION** at the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications (749 E. Industrial Park Dr., Manchester, 331-7209, loebschool.org) on Tues., March 18, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. will be to discuss the publics right to know information from the government.

• **NEW ENGLAND K-9 SEARCH AND RESCUE** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhaudubon.org) will be on Sat., March 22, from 10 a.m. to noon. This free workshop will be an educational program for kids from ages 4 through 10 and their families to learn about how to avoid getting lost and what to do if you do. Registration is required. Register with Wanda Rice at 432-7840, wandarice@comcast.net.

Travel & culture

• **ISLAM IN THE MEDIA** at Sanborn Regional High School on Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m. in partnership with the Kingston Community Library (Kingston, 642-3521). Presentation by Susan Douglass.

• **BOSTON FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW** on Fri., March 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Merrimack Parks and Rec (Merrimack, 882-1046) welcomes anyone who wants to go on a day trip. Cost is $40.

• **ADVENTURE TRAVEL** with David and Mary Kearney on Sat., March 15, at 11 a.m. at Maple Suites Senior Independent Living (30 Holiday Drive, Dover, 742-8820). They will talk about traveling to Ireland. Registration is required.

Wedding

• **WHAT MAKES MARRIAGE WORK** The Merrimack Valley Baptist Church (517 Boston Post Road, Merrimack, joel.gibbs@mvbc.org) is hosting a series of marriage classes on Sundays from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. The series will run until May 25.

• **ATKINSON RESORT AND COUNTRY CLUB BRIDAL SHOW** on March 9, at 1 p.m. at the Atkinson Resort & Country Club (85 Country Club Drive, Atkinson, bridenh.com). Admission is $5.

• **MANCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB BRIDAL SHOW** on Sun., March 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Manchester Country Club (nhweddingmagazine.com).

Nature & Gardening

Animals/insects

• **ICY INSECTS** preschool program will be presentated at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) on March 6, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. or 12:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is $8.

• **MARINE MAMMEL RESCUE TEAM** will have a dinner on Thurs., March 6, at 5 p.m. at the Seacost Science Center (570 Ocean Blvd, Rye, 436-8043, seacostsciencecenter.org/events). There will be presentation and activities about marine mammal rescues. Cost is $18 for adults and $10 for children.

• **BEE KEEPER CLASS** with Wendy Booth at Jerimiah Smith Grange Hall (Lee Hook Road, Lee, 557-7468) on March 8 and March 15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is $100. There will also be classes on April 26 and May 3.

• **BUG NIGHTS** at St. Paul's School (Boscawen, 796-2615, merrimackriver.org) to learn about bugs will be held on Wednesdays, March 12, March 19, March 26, April 2, April 9, April 16 and April 23, 6 to 9 p.m.

• **THE HUNTERS AND THE HUNTED** a family program about predators and prey animals on March 14, from 7 to 8 p.m. at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org). Cost is $5.

Birds

• **PREDATORS OF THE SKY: LIVE BIRDS OF PREY** will be a presentation with Tom Ricardi on March 8, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org). Cost is $25 per family.

• **BIRD WATCHING** with Eric Masterson at the Hollis Public Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org) on Sat., March 8, at 3 p.m. Masterson will present a 45-minute presentation on techniques for looking for bird species.

• **BIRDING NH** at the Merrimack Public Library (470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-5021, merrimacklibrary.org) on Thurs., March 13, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. will feature Eric Masterson, who will share tips for finding birds in our region.

• **FINDING THEIR WAY** will be a family program about migration at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) on March 28, from 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is $5.

Social media conversions

Stock or purchase price may not reflect actual value

By John "jaQ"Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



When I download an app on my phone, $1 seems like a lot. When Mark Zuckerberg buys an app company, $1 billion is apparently chump change.

Facebook's purchase of Instagram in 2012 ended up costing about $700 million when it was finalized that September, but when it was announced that April, the Facebook stock offered up was valued at a cool $1 billion. The amount was shocking at the time; how could one small company with such a simple product be worth so much?

And yet after Twitter debuted on the New York Stock Exchange last November with a valuation of $24 billion, the buzz was that Instagram's founder sold cheap. Just a few days later, another photo-sharing service caught Zuck's eye: SnapChat, the app that shows you pictures from your friends for only a few seconds before making them vanish. But his offer of $3 billion in cash was politely declined.

Zuckerberg brought his wallet to ensure that Facebook's next acquisition offer would be accepted – and it was. Last month's big story was Facebook's acquisition of WhatsApp for the staggering sum of $19 billion: $4 billion in cash and $12 billion in stock now, plus another $3 billion in stock if the WhatsApp staff remains in Facebook's employ for four years.

What makes WhatsApp so unique? After a free first year, WhatsApp charges 99 cents per year to users to bypass expensive cellular texting plans. Big deal, right? There are plenty of free messaging options for smartphones. Ah, but WhatsApp works on cheaper phones based on the Nokia S40 and Symbian operating systems as well as iOS, Android, Windows Phone, and BlackBerry. That gives WhatsApp – and now Facebook – access to emerging markets where smartphones aren't yet common. Even once upgrades start to happen, they won't happen all at once, so users will keep WhatsApp to stay in touch with all their contacts. They'll be invested in that system already.

Inflation in the mobile messaging world has clearly taken hold. WhatsApp's price even boosted beleaguered BlackBerry's stock, on the theory that its BBM (BlackBerry Messenger) software might be undervalued. After all, it's not just for BlackBerries anymore, with Android and iOS apps available.

Dollar amounts in the billions are essentially imaginary money to most people. The whole situation might be another tech bubble, with all these companies only "worth" so much until they go out of style. Their relative amounts are useful, though, for comparison within the industry.

Facebook itself is valued at about $175 billion at the moment, up from $104 billion at its IPO in May 2012. That's its market capitalization, anyway, the price of its stock multiplied by the number of shares. Was Instagram really worth only 1 percent of Facebook back in 2012? Has Facebook increased its value 75 percent in the past 20-odd months? Was Instagram integration part of that increase?

Similarly, is Facebook worth nine times WhatsApp? The purchase price doesn't seem so ridiculous when framed that way. WhatsApp claims 450 million users right now, and a billion users is not out of the question in the future. Many of them will be different from Facebook's 1.23 billion users, so Zuckerberg is investing in a transition path for getting people all over the world on his platform.

Facebook may be the doddering old man on the social networking block now, but it's absorbing younger companies to keep itself relevant. With so many billions at its disposal, it'll be around a while.

What messaging apps do you use? @CitizenjaQ on Twitter uses Twitter.

Gardening/farming

• **JOURNEYPERSON PROGRAM** NOFA-NH (nofanh.org, info@nofanh.org) is looking for beginner farmers to apply to their journeyperson program. Applications are being accepted now. There are only 2 slots.

• **PLANNING AND MANAGING YOUR FARM FOR PROFIT** with Richard Wiswall, on Sat., March 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Keene State College in the Young Student Center (229 Main St., Keene, 224-5022, nofanh.org). Wiswall will lecture on how to keep a farm.

• **SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC GARDENING** at the Hooksett Library (31 Mt. St. Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org) on Thurs., March 13, at 6:30 p.m. Paula Kovescses, owner of TWIG Horticultural Consulting, will discuss organic gardening for flowers and vegetable gardens.









weekly DISH

News from the local food scene

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

• **Co-op coming to Wolfeboro:** The Concord Co-op Board of Directors recently approved a proposal to open a new co-op store in Wolfeboro after its community members approached the Concord Co-op. According to an email release from the co-op's board, the new Wolfeboro location will be similar to its New London store. An information session will be held on Saturday, March 15, at 9 a.m. at the Concord store with a presentation and an opportunity for co-op members to ask questions about the new project.

• **State's professional chefs meet:** The local New Hampshire chapter of the American Culinary Federation's annual Professional Chefs of New Hampshire Epicurean Dinner will be held on Friday, April 4, at The Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua this year with guest speaker chef Nicole Barreira of Great NH Restaurants. The evening includes ice carvings, piano entertainment, a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres prepared by culinary students of Nashua Technology Center and Concord High School and a five-course dinner. The Mardi Gras themed dinner will be prepared by chefs from Hilton Garden Inn, Manchester, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nashua, St. Joseph Hospital, Southern New Hampshire University, the Pingree School in South Hamilton, Mass., Frederick's Pastries and Lantmännen Unibake USA. Tickets cost $60 per person, or $25 for students. Reservations can be made by contacting Samantha Connors at 566-0575.

• **Fishy grants available:** The New Hampshire Fish and Lobster Festival (also known as Fishtival) recently announced that it will be offering grants for an event, cause, campaign or organization that furthers the mission and values of the festival. The annual Portsmouth festival contributes to local food systems, economy and local culture, and such grant applications should demonstrate its mission of increasing the public support of the region's small-boat local fishing industry. Grants range from $200 to $1,500. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 14. Applications are available at fishtival.org.

• **Family pizza challenge:** The Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) is hosting a Mini Iron Chef Pizza Challenge on Sunday, March 9, with two competition age groups. Kids ages 4 to 7 and parents can compete from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by ages 8 to 12 between

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FOOD

Animal house (with Wi-Fi and cupcakes)

Hudson couple opens Benson's Bakery & Café

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com



Owner Emily Erickson stands in front of the counter at Benson's Bakery & Cafe in Hudson. Emelia Attridge photo.

Benson's Wild Animal Park closed in 1987, but Hudson natives Cory Boutin and Emily Erickson are giving the zoo and amusement park's memories new life. The couple opened Benson's Bakery & Café last month, and since then, support has been pouring in from across the community.

"Hudson loves Benson's," Boutin said about the animal park.

It seems the sentiment applies to the new café as well.

"The community has really held on to what we're doing and supports us," Erickson said. "We had our first customer a half hour after we turned the light on, and it's been busy since that moment. And it's everything, not just the bakery, not just the food, not just the coffee."

Customers can walk up to the counter to order from the chalkboard menu that stretches across the wall. The breakfast menu features omelets (like the egg, tomato, basil and feta omelet), organic yogurt, steel-cut oats and breakfast sandwiches to choose from.

For lunch, homemade soups are made daily and available to order from the specials board. There are comfort classics and light sandwiches too, like tuna salad, grilled cheese, a sandwich with hummus, sprouts and cucumber, a toasted mozzarella with basil and tomato sandwich and options to customize ingredients. Sandwiches come with a pickle, mixed green salad or chips and a cookie.

"We sell out of chicken salad almost everyday," Erickson said.

The chicken salad comes in two varieties, original or Benson's chicken salad, which is made with celery, grapes and sunflower seeds.

"I come from a culinary background, so we have some classic things but also fun stuff," she said.

Benson's park paraphernalia decorates the new eatery. The whole café is nostalgic of Hudson's past, with decorations, postcards, maps and photographs of the former animal park. There are also carnival-esque details woven into the space, too, like a bright red popcorn machine and claw-footed wooden furniture.

Erickson said she wants to be able to provide catering with picnic baskets in the summertime for when people want to visit Benson Park, where families go to enjoy the space formerly occupied by the zoo and animal park.

Opening a café is a dream come true for Erickson. She went to the Culinary Institute of America to learn how to manage a bakery and café and earned her degree in baking and pastry arts.

"The whole reason I went to school for this was to have a cafe. I love it," Erickson said. "It's a big dream, I've been chasing this for a while. And Cory, he was the last piece of the whole puzzle."

Erickson said she loves to make eclairs, but the bacon maple cupcake is her most requested treat. Other sweet treats are available daily in the glass case in front of the counter, including cupcakes, decorated sugar cookies, cakes, cake pops and whoopie pies.

The entrepreneurial couple grew up on the same street in Hudson and went to school together as kids.

They agreed Hudson was in need of a bakery and café, the type of place to enjoy a cup of coffee with access to Wi-Fi. Boutin said he always had to drive into nearby Nashua to sit and work in a coffee shop, because there wasn't anywhere in Hudson he could do the same.

The eatery sources its bread from Great Harvest in Nashua, and the coffee comes from Good Vibes Coffee Roasters in North Conway.

Benson's Bakery & Cafe

203 Central St., Hudson
718-8683
bensonsbakeryandcafe.com

Building a better breakfast

Mosaic Oatmeals packs flavor with natural ingredients

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

If any breakfast food needs a culinary makeover, it's oatmeal. The hot cereal has long been praised for its nutritional and health benefits, but its bland, mushy characteristics can be a turn-off. But Kit Reno, owner of Mosaic Oatmeals, sees a bowl of oatmeal as a blank canvas.

"It's always about all the other things you bring into an oatmeal to make it interesting," Reno said. "And that's what a mosaic has always been to me."

While the average oatmeal is flavored with salt, sugar or brown sugar, Reno makes her own recipe packed with organic ingredients, colors and flavors. She was first inspired by an oatmeal on the menu at a local restaurant when she was living in Oregon 15 years ago.

"The thing about it is that everyone knows about oatmeal," Reno said. "But we really eat oatmeal in such an almost traditional way."

Reno made her Moroccan-style oatmeal

Mosaic Oatmeals

Available at Farm & Flower Market (15 Webster St., Manchester, 625-6700), Johnson Golden Harvest (412 W. River Road, Hooksett, 210-2031), Granite State Natural Foods (164 N. State St., Concord, 224-9341), the Bedford Fields Winter Farmers Market (Sat., March 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bedford Fields, 331 Route 101, Bedford, bedfordfields.com) and the Concord Winter Farmers Market (Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cole Gardens, 430 Loudon Road, Concord, concordwintermarket.com).

recipe for years for family and friends, and as a special request for friends with chronic illness who needed anti-inflammatory foods in their diet. She started offering samples of her oatmeal last winter, and by September, Mosaic Oatmeals was licensed for retail. The oatmeals come in two varieties: Sultan's Own Moroccan Oatmeal and New Hampshire Morning Mountain Spice.

Based on Reno's original recipe, her Sultan's Own Moroccan Oatmeal includes rolled oats, dried apricots, dried raisins, pistachio nuts and three top anti-inflammatory spices: cinnamon, ginger and turmeric. All the ingredients are organic, with the exception of the pistachio nuts, Reno said.

"I've always loved the exotic, too. I have a real affinity to things of other cultures," Reno said of her Moroccan-inspired oatmeal. "If [people] like ginger, they love this."

She recommends her other oatmeal for those who don't have an affinity to ginger. New Hampshire Morning Mountain Spice includes rolled oats, apricots, orange, a mix of spices and apple (again, all organic with the exception of the apple).

"I've still not been able to get the type of apple I want organically," Reno said. "The flavors in there are so traditionally New Hampshire."

Reno is also a homeopathic practitioner and owns Mosaic Wellness, so Mosaic Oatmeals fit well in her line of work.

"I've always appreciated the importance of nutrition and I also really appreciate prevention," she said. "And with those two things in mind, if we eat really well, we're going to benefit our general health."

Although oatmeal in general offers health benefits, most store-bought oatmeal already includes added salt and sugar, she said, neither of which are added to Mosaic Oatmeals.

"That's really, really important for me as a homeopath," Reno said. "You can always add it, but you can't take it out. … Plain oatmeal isn't organic, and [Mosaic Oatmeals] have additional ingredients that really fight inflammation, boost immunity and other things that plain old oatmeal can't do — it's also really good."



Sultan's Own Morroccan Oatmeal. Courtesy photo.

Oatmeal, particularly organic oatmeal, lowers cholesterol, helps manage a healthy weight, is naturally low in gluten, stabilizes blood sugar and has no added sugar.

Each pouch of oatmeal includes six servings. One serving equals one cup of cooked oatmeal, or a half cup of uncooked oats. Mosaic Oatmeals aren't instant and should be cooked on the stovetop, Reno said, but it doesn't take that much longer.

Almond milk, cow's milk, and soy milk all pair well with the oatmeals, she said. Coconut milk pairs well with Sultan's Own Moroccan Style Oatmeal, and some customers enjoy adding maple syrup to the New Hampshire Morning Mountain Spice. She also said that the microwave should be avoided for the best flavor profile possible.

"This whole mentality of rush, rush, rush isn't helping us at all," Reno said. "The bottom line is breakfast is the most important meal of the day."

Women's Expo goes culinary

Wine garden and lots of pie at WZID event

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

The WZID Women's Expo will be especially tasty this year, with pie guru Rodney Henry of *Next Food Network Star* featured as a guest and a cooking stage with demos from local restaurants and bakeries.

"I love doing this kind of stuff, like demos, and meeting folks is a blast," Henry said during a phone interview. "[Fans] think I'm a rocker or kind of a goofball, which is kind of true. What was cool about it was that the show [*Next Food Network Star*] pretty much portrayed me as exactly as I am. Everyone else there was trying to fit a certain image. … All I wanted to do was rock and roll and bake pies."

It's the first year the expo will also feature a cooking stage, coordinator Jennifer Cannon said, but it's not the first time culinary TV fame has come on board for the annual event. A couple years ago, one of Bravo's *Top Chef* contestants gave a cooking demo. This year, Cannon said, there will be a lot more to watch and eat.

There are five other cooking demonstrations scheduled throughout the day — including mahi mahi on grilled flour tortillas from T-Bones' chef Nicole Barreira, and a

16th Annual WZID Women's Expo

When: Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown (700 Elm St., Manchester)
Cost: $7 advance tickets, $10 at the door. A portion of the proceeds will benefit NH Easter Seals.
Visit: wzid.com/womens-expo









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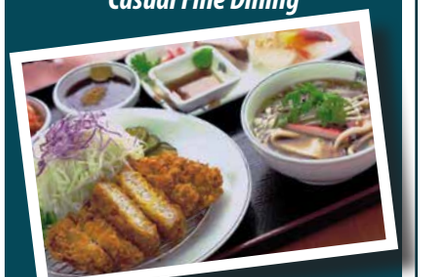
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Pie guru Rodney Henry of *Next Food Network Star*. Courtesy photo.

cupcake and frosting demo by Gone Baking. Van Otis Chocolates, Pickety Place and Cucina Aurora will be there as well.

"They're going to have samples of everything they're making after the demonstration," Cannon said.

It's also the first year the Expo has ever had a Wine Garden. Guests will be able to sample wine from eight New Hampshire wineries, including LaBelle Winery, Jewell Towne Vineyards and Flag Hill Winery.

In addition to all the food and wine happenings, *Dancing with the Stars* fans might even get a chance to share a number with dancer Tony Dovolani. Dovolani joins Henry as a guest entertainer for the program, and Cannon said WZID is running a contest for a lucky winner to join Dovolani as his dance partner.

There's a lot to watch this year, plus around 30 booths from food vendors, local hospitals, supermarkets, spas and retailers. Another highlight is the Award Ceremony for the 20 Outstanding Women You Should Know.

"It's unbelievable to me what some of the women do," Cannon said. "It just blows me away."

Since there's so much to see and taste this year, Cannon recommends planning your day around scheduled programming.

"We tell people they should come early and plan to stay for a while," she said. "I just think it's a great event for women and families of any age. My kids come and they love to see the talent every year."

WZID Women's Expo Schedule

10:15 a.m. Gone Baking demo at the Home Innovations Cooking Stage
10:30 a.m. Legacy Trust and Wills presents Absolutely Magic Magician Andrew Pinard
11 a.m. T-Bones demo at the Home Innovations Cooking Stage
11:30 a.m. Rodney Henry, star of *The Next Food Network Star*
12:15 p.m. Cucina Aurora demo at the Home Innovations Cooking Stage
12:50 p.m. Dance demonstration by Vive La Dance and Fitness
1 p.m. Tony Dovolani, star of *Dancing with the Stars*
2:30 p.m. Pickety Place demo at the Home Innovations Cooking Stage
3 p.m. 20 Outstanding Women You Should Know presented by Hannaford Supermarkets
3:30 p.m. Van Otis Chocolates demo at the Home Innovations Cooking Stage
3:45 p.m. Door prize drawings

Food

Lectures/author events/ festivals/fairs

• **WORLD CUISINE TOUR** Thursdays, through May 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, concordfoodcoop.coop). Each week features cuisine from a different themed region around the world. Diners receive stamps each Thursday in a passport. Earn five stamps, receive free admission to a future Co-op event; earn 10 stamps and receive two passes to a future Co-op event. Visit concordfoodcoop.coop to see the menu each week.

• **FLIGHT NIGHT** Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us) offers tasting of rare varietal drinking chocolate with tasting notes on Fri., March 7, from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost $14, reservations recommended.

• **WZID WOMEN'S EXPO** Sat., March 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Radisson Hotel Expo Center (777 Elm St., Manchester). Includes performance by *Dancing with the Stars*' Tony Dovolani, Food Network star Rodney Henry, cooking demonstrations and vendors. Tickets cost $7 in advance, $10 at the door.

• **TEA AND TUNES** Fri., March 14, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at The Cozy Tea Cart (104 Route 13, Brookline, 249-9111, thecozyteacart.com), with Celtic artist Kate Chadbourne. Advanced ticket purchase required, cost $7.

• **MUNCH MADNESS** Rochester restaurants host special items for tournament voting during NCAA basketball playoffs, Sun., March 16, through Mon., April 7. Participating restaurants will offer a special and diners can vote for their favorite. See rochestermainstreet.org.

• **FARM & FOOD FILM** Screening *The World According to Monsanto* on Mon., March 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at A

3:30 and 4:30 p.m. Like *Iron Chef*, adult-child teams will be provided with the pizza bases, toppings and utensils to create a new pizza recipe. A panel of judges will taste-test the pizza creations. The Mini Iron Chef Pizza Challenge is a part of the museum's FoodWorks partnership with Hannaford Supermarkets. It costs $10 per adult-child team to enter the competition, and pre-registration is strongly recommended.

• **Time for corned beef and cabbage:** St. Patrick's Day is coming up and local churches are celebrating with food. **St. Raphael Parish** (103 Walker St., Manchester, 494-3941, saint-raphael-parish.com) is hosting a corned beef and cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 8, following the annual tradition where the previous St. Patrick's Day parade Grand Marshal will hand off the sash to this year's Grand Marshal. It starts at 4 p.m., followed by the dinner at 5:30 p.m., with Irish music, dancing, raffle and gift baskets. Tickets cost $15. **Arlington Street United Methodist Church** (63 Arlington St., Nashua, 882-4663, asumc.net) will hold its corned beef and cabbage supper on Saturday, March 15, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Guests also receive a free blood pressure screening during the supper, which costs $11 for adults, $10 for seniors, $6 for children, and no cost to kids under age 6. **Chester Congregational & Baptist Church** (1 Chester St., Chester, 887-4799, chesternhchurch.org) is hosting its St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Saturday, March 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. in Stevens Memorial Hall. The dinner also includes irish music, and costs $12 for adults, or $5 for children under 12. **Brookside Congregational Church** (2013 Elm St., Manchester, 669-2807, brooksidecc.org) will host a corned beef and cabbage lunch following its morning worship on Sunday, March 16, from noon to 2:30 p.m. The luncheon will benefit the Brookside Youth Group Mission Trip, and costs $8 for adults, and $5 for kids 12 and under. Know of another local organization celebrating this St. Patrick's Day? Email food@hippopress.com.

Market (125 Loring St., Manchester, 668-2650, myamarket.com); Part 1 of two sessions viewing and discussing the film.

• **STARTUP NIGHT** at Leaven Beer and Bread House (44 Market St., Somersworth, 692-0157, leavennh.com) on Thursdays, March 20, and April 17. Audience members participate in entrepreneurial game show to pitch ideas and collaborate.

• **CHOCOLATE, WINE & CHEESE FESTIVAL** Fri., March 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sky Meadow Country Club (6 Mountain Laurels Drive, Nashua) with over 50 international and domestic wines, artisan chocolates and cheese for tasting. Also includes half-hour pairing seminar. Tickets cost $25, and $5 for designated drivers. Festival benefits Newspaper in Education. Visit nashuatelegraph.com/events.

• **MAPLE WEEKEND** Maple Producers Association celebrates sugaring season Sat., March 22, and Sun., March 23 with events and programs at participating sugar houses. See nhmapleproducers.com.

• **FEASTING FROM LITERATURE** Tues., March 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us). Chef Liz Barbour will share recipes found within novels with cooking demo and sample of two recipes. Admission is free, but registration is required.

• **AUTHOR EVENT** Douglas Whynott presents *The Sugar Season: A Year in the Life of Maple Syrup, and One Family's Quest for the Sweetest Harvest* on Wed., April 2, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com).

Chef events/special meals

• **IRISH AFTERNOON TEA** Sun., March 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Cozy Tea Cart (104 Route 13, Brookline, 249-9111, thecozyteacart.com). Menu includes Irish tea bread, chicken salad puffs, Irish cheddar and apple tea sandwiches, bread pudding with orange sauce and other treats. Registration required.

• **WILD IRISH BREAKFAST** Fri., March 14, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at The Radisson Hotel Nashua (11 Tara Blvd., Nashua). Includes bagpipes, comedy, guests Sen. Kelly Ayotte, Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, Gov. Maggie Hassan, Sen. Peggy Gilmour and Nashua Mayor Donnalee Lozeau. Tickets cost $85 and benefit PLUS Company. Call 889-0652.

• **TABLE TALK** Networking event with dinner and dancing benefits the Palace Youth Theatre, Palace Teen Company and Palace Teen Apprentice Company on Fri., March 14, at Southern New Hampshire University (2500 N. River Road, Manchester). Open to the public for the first year ever. Tickets cost $650 per corporate table, public seating costs $60 per person. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org.

• **DINNER PARTY AT THE LION** Mon., March 17, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Dancing Lion Chocolates (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, danclion.us). "Family style" dinner with vegetarian dishes. Cost $40. Reservations required.

• **CELTIC CELEBRATION** Hearthside dinner at the Remick Museum and Farm (58 Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-8382, remickmuseum.org) on Sat., March 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Cost $40. Call 323-7591 to make a reservation. Reservations required.

• **CLUE, A MURDER MYSTERY** Dinner on Sat., March 15, at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., Suite 325, Dover, 842-4077, stages-dining.com). Reservations required; visit OpenTable.com.

Church/charity suppers/ bake sales

• **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** Sundays from 8 to 11 a.m. at Philbrick-Clement Post 65 American Legion (12 N. Stark Highway, Weare, 529-2722, nhpost65.us). A la carte breakfast menu benefits the Legion and community outreach. Cost ranges from $3.50 to $7.

• **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Held the third Wed. of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford at 20 Elm St. See uucm.org.

• **MASONS BREAKFAST** Sundays from 7:30 to 10 a.m. through March 30, at the Masonic Lodge, 12 South Road, Candia. Cost $7 for adults, $4 for kids 12 and under, no charge for kids under 6.

• **FLAPJACK FUNDRAISER** benefits The Majestic Theatre on Sat., March 8, from 8 to 10 a.m.

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IN THE KITCHEN WITH SCOTT JONES



Scott Jones has been the executive chef at the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, concordfoodcoop.coop) since last April, a fitting job for someone who grew up on a farm in Boscawen. Jones prefers working with ingredients that start in as raw a state as possible. "When you talk about getting as fresh as possible, I'm all about it," he said. One of the biggest adjustments Jones has had to make as a chef at the Co-op is working around the large banned ingredients list, he said. Jones graduated from culinary school at Johnson & Wales and since has worked as a banquet chef in Tucson, Ariz., and as the executive chef for New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

A sharp knife for sure. If I don't have a I sharp knife, I can't do anything. If I was going to say a food, I'd definitely say oil.

What would you choose for your last meal?

Some venison steak. Right in the pan with butter, onions and peppers.

Favorite restaurant besides your own?

Capriccio's in Providence, R.I. By far, the best Italian restaurant. It's classic Italian; it's the table-side service.

What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?

Any celebrity is fine with me! I'd say Hank Williams Jr. If Hank came in, I'd like to make that man a steak.

What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?

I would say, just from being here, it's got to be whole foods. It's more greens, more grains. Those are the food trends. Right now, people are just discovering green kale for the first time. Sriracha hot sauce is getting to be more and more popular as people learn about it.

What is your favorite meal to cook at home?

When I'm home I keep it as simple as possible, nothing big and elaborate. I do that all week long. I'd say simple food, has to have cheese on it, and it has to go good with a cold beer.

What is your favorite dish on your restaurant's menu?

Our sticky chicken that we run every Friday. It's our biggest seller. … We serve it with our mac and cheese that we've been known for for so many years. So I'd say those two. We have people come line up at the door for that.

— Emelia Attridge

Bison Stuffed Peppers

From the kitchen of Scott Jones at the Concord Food Co-op.

1 pound buffalo meat
1 onion, diced
½ green pepper, diced
1 tomato, diced
2 cloves garlic
2 cups cooked rice
1 cup tomato sauce
2 slices mozzarella cheese
2 tablespoons Italian seasonings
2 peppers with the top cut-off and seeded

Sauté the onions and diced green pepper. Add meat and brown. Add seasonings, garlic and rice. Cook for five minutes and adjust seasonings as needed. Stuff the pepper with mix, top with tomato sauce and cook in a 350 degree oven for 30 minutes. Top with mozzarella and cook until cheese melts.

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• **CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER** Sat., March 8, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at St. Raphael Parish (103 Walker St., Manchester), also includes raffle. Tickets cost $15. Call 494-3941.

• **CHOWDER LUNCH** Tues., March 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Community Congregational Church Parish House (42 Post Road, Greenland, 436-8336, communitychurchofgreenland.org). Includes fish chowder, corn chowder, homemade bread, coffee or tea and homemade pies. Take-out is available. Cost $7.

• **SWEET TASTE OF SPRING** Fundraiser for NH Audubon on Sat., March 15, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn) with maple sugaring program at 9:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.Tickets cost $15, or $35 for families. Call 668-2045.

• **TURKEY SUPPER** Sat., March 15, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Bethany Chapel Community Church (54 Newbury Road, Manchester). Includes turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, squash, peas, cranberry sauce and a variety of pies. Tickets cost $10 for adults, $4 for kids ages 6 to 12, no charge

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FOOD

PERISHABLES

Tasty food from fresh ingredients



Broccoli

As the winter grows longer, eating healthy becomes harder, I find. Our bodies crave comfort food — but comfort food is frequently loaded with fat and devoid of vegetables. Whether we like them or not, our bodies need vegetables. I find it so easy to eat vegetables when they are cooked in a traditional Asian way. They retain their firmness and flavor and seem to always be swimming in some delicious sauce.

In my opinion, one of the trickiest vegetables to cook right is broccoli. When I was growing up, my mother boiled it, which inevitably made it mushy and tasteless, in addition to stripping its nutrients away. Steaming or roasting it is certainly a big step up when you consider both the flavor and nutritional value, but nothing beats a good stir-fry.

Buwei Yang Chao, an immigrant from China living in Cambridge, Mass., with her husband, wrote and published *How to Cook and Eat in Chinese* in 1945. Chao was the first to use the term "stir-fry" and is credited with bringing much of Chinese cooking into our culture. I wouldn't have known any of this if not for Jason Epstein's 2004 article in The New York Times titled "Chinese Characters." According to Epstein, Chao published many of her recipes from memory with the help of her daughter and husband. I am so grateful to this woman!

Stir-fry is simple: Heat a wok with a bit of oil and throw in a bunch of ingredients, stirring them continuously. Add a delicious sauce and some seasonings and you have one tasty meal! I could have the stir-fry I'm sharing with you today almost every night and just vary the sauce or protein to keep life interesting. — *Allison Willson Dudas*

Easy Stir-Fry

1 tablespoon minced garlic
1 teaspoon sesame oil
1½ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cubed
2 large broccoli crowns, cut into pieces (feel free to use the stems, just slice)
1 carrot, peeled and sliced
1 red pepper, sliced
Your favorite rice

Lemon Stir-Fry Sauce
2/3 cup chicken broth
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon soy sauce
2-3 tablespoons lemon juice (to taste)
Optional: red pepper flakes or sriracha sauce

Whisk sauce ingredients together in small bowl, tasting to ensure you like it. Place chicken cubes in sauce and marinate for at least 15 minutes. (You can always do this overnight covered in the fridge, but I never seem to plan ahead enough!)
Heat sesame oil in wok over high heat and add the garlic. Once garlic is fragrant, toss in the chicken (remove from marinade and save sauce), stirring continuously until seared on both sides. Add the broccoli and, remaining sauce and stir continuously for about 30 seconds. Add remaining vegetables in the same way, always mixing and stirring — mixture will cook for about 4 more minutes. When broccoli is bright green and slightly crisp, remove it all from heat and serve over rice. Enjoy!

for kids under 6. Call 497-2087.
• **CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE SUPPER** Sat, March 15, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at Arlington Street United Methodist Church (63 Arlington St., Nashua, 882-4663, asumc.net). Also includes potato, carrots, turnips, beverage, bread and dessert. Guests will also receive a free blood pressure screening during supper hours. Cost $11 for adults, $10 for seniors, $6 for children, and free for kids under age 6.
• **ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER** Sat., March 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Chester Congregational & Baptist Church, in Stevens Memorial Hall (1 Chester St., Chester, 887-4799, chesternhchurch.org). Includes corned beef dinner and Irish music entertainment. Cost $12 for adults, $5 for children under 12.
• **CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE LUNCH** Sun., March 16, from noon to 2:30 p.m., hosted by the Brookside Youth Group at Brookside Congregational Church (2013 Elm St., Manchester). Cost $8 for adults, and $5 for kids ages 12 and under. Call 669-2807.
• **CHOWDER LUNCH** Tues., March 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Community Congregational Church Parish House (42 Post Road, Greenland, 436-8336, communitychurchofgreenland.org). Includes fish chowder, corn chowder, homemade bread, coffee or tea and homemade pies. Take-out is available. Cost $7.

Food classes/workshops

• **DINNER PREP WORKSHOP** Thurs., March 6, prep entrees to take home for a later dinner at Shellie's Neighborhood Butcher Shop (38 Crystal Ave., Derry, 505-4558, shelliesbutcher.com) Cost $180 for instruction and ingredients. Registration required.
• **COOKING INDIAN CUI-**

FOOD

FROM THE PANTRY

Ideas from off the shelf

Buttermilk



In my house we live without cable. We catch up on any shows we like or movies we want to watch mostly online through live streaming or a Netflix account. Without cable, it's easy to get sucked into a series: first you watch a single episode, and the next thing you know you've watched an entire season.

As my husband and I were searching for something to watch one night, we stumbled across a show called *BBQ Pitmasters*. The series originally aired on TLC and ran for at least five seasons — all of which we watched online in about a week.

My husband was instantly hooked on hearing the simple barbecue tips and tricks from people who have been cooking up competition-worthy barbecue for decades. We started looking for the casts' products and cookbooks online and in stores.

A few weeks before my husband's birthday, I found a cookbook by one of the featured cooks, Myron Mixon, at a local bookshop. The cookbook is filled with recipes for dry rubs, wet rubs, barbecue chicken, pork, ribs, etc. It's like the Bible for barbecue fanatics.

But since it's still cold and I'm not about to go outside and fire up the smoker or the grill, I looked for a recipe that could be made indoors. To my surprise, I found a recipe for fried chicken — not something I expected from a barbecue cookbook.

Coincidentally, earlier in the week my husband had texted me that he was craving fried chicken, so I thought I'd give Myron Mixon's recipe for buttermilk fried chicken a shot. Mixon's recipe recommended frying the chicken in pure pork lard, but I wasn't about to jump that far into the calories-don't-count category of food. Instead, I opted for vegetable oil (peanut oil would work too), and the chicken still turned out golden, crispy and delicious.

The coating for the chicken consists of buttermilk, eggs and a blend of spices, which I think is the real key to a satisfying batch of homemade fried chicken. You can always experiment until you find a combination you like, but this recipe is a great option if you don't feel like cooking through trial and error.

Again, I was surprised to find that I had all of the required spices in my pantry, which made prepping this recipe even easier (and less expensive) than having to find rare or exotic spices at a specialty store that I'd be unlikely to ever use again.

The combination of the tangy buttermilk and rich spices like garlic powder, chili powder and sweet paprika was delectable. The subtleties of each spice really shined, and you could taste each one with every bite.

The buttermilk and egg mixture formed a great base and added another flavor profile to the chicken. A hint of sugar and garlic plus basic salt and pepper rounded out the ingredients and made for a delicious main course.

— *Lauren Mifsud*

Myron's Signature Buttermilk Fried Chicken

Recipe courtesy of Smokin' with Myron Mixon

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon salt
2 tablespoons finely ground black pepper
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon chili powder
1 teaspoon sugar
1 teaspoon smoked sweet paprika
2 eggs
4 cups buttermilk
1 small chicken cut into about 8 pieces (2 legs, 2 thighs, 2 breasts, 2 wings)
1 to 1½ cups oil for frying

In a large bowl, combine all of the dry ingredients. Mix together with a fork until thoroughly combined.

In a separate bowl, beat the eggs into the buttermilk. Coat the chicken pieces in the wet mixture, and then dredge them in the flour mixture. Repeat with each piece to create a double layer of batter. Set the coated pieces aside on a clean plate.

In a large (preferably cast-iron) skillet, pour the oil or lard to a depth of about 1 inch. Heat over medium heat until the temperature on a deep-frying thermometer reads 325 degrees. Add the chicken pieces in batches, cooking for about 20 minutes and turning them halfway through cooking (the wings will only take about 10 minutes total). Drain the chicken on paper towels and serve immediately.











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JUST DESSERTS
Recipes for the sweet tooth

Plantains



In the wake of Valentine's Day, my household – in which we often express love with sweets – had a dessert issue. Chocolates, pastries, ice cream – we had way, way too much of it all.

So as I contemplated making a dessert this week, my thoughts turned away from the rich and creamy and sugary and toward the produce section. The answer, I decided, was plantains.

Plantains may strongly resemble overgrown bananas, but they are really quite different. The flavor of a plantain is similar to that of a banana, but plantains are starchier and less sweet. Plantains should not be eaten raw.

Plantains are also edible for a longer window than their more diminutive cousins. Green and yellow plantains can be used much like potatoes in savory dishes. When the skin turns black – a color that would destine a banana to a quick bread batter – a plantain is at its sweetest and most delicious.

Plantains are found nestled next to the bananas in most supermarkets and are generally sold in individual pieces rather than bunches. If you are planning to use them in this or any other dessert recipe, look for fruit that is heavily speckled in black.

The peel of a plantain is much more stubborn than that of a banana. To remove it, cut off both ends of the fruit, then slit the peel lengthwise. Use the knife tip to pry up the edge along the slit, then remove the peel in one piece.

Like this recipe, most plantain desserts are straightforward preparations that keep the fruit front and center. Epicurious offers up a recipe for plantain fritters; slices of fruit are dipped in a simple batter, pan-fried, and dusted with sugar. Chiquita suggests encasing plantains in a flaky crust to create tropical turnovers.

This recipe coats plantains in a lightly spiced caramel syrup. The resulting treat makes a delightful light dessert on its own but also goes perfectly with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream (or both) if you are looking for something a little more indulgent. Enjoy. — *Sarah Shemkus*

Caramelized Plantains
Recipe adapted from MarthaStewart.com

1 tablespoon unsalted butter
1 tablespoon sugar
1 large plantain, black or almost black, cut into ⅓-inch slices
¼ cup apple juice
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

In a 9-inch skillet, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the sugar and cook, stirring, until the mixture begins to turn golden brown, about 2 minutes.
Add the plantains, tossing to coat, and cook until tender, stirring frequently, about 3 minutes. Add the juice and boil until reduced by half and slightly thickened. Stir in the cinnamon and remove from the heat. Serve warm.

SINE Bedford Community Enrichment cooking class meets on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. at Bedford High School (47 Nashua Road, Bedford) on Wed., March 12. Tuition costs $39 per class, plus an additional $10 supply fee per class. Visit sau25.net.

• **LET'S COOK** Concord Parks and Recreation adult cooking class meets Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 12, March 19, and March 26 at the new Heights Community Center (14 Canterbury Road, Concord).

• **HANDS ON: CRAFTING A TRUE TRUFFLE** Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us) instruction on Thurs., March 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Costs $65; space limited. Preregistration required.

• **DATE NIGHT COOKING CLASSES** at The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry, 339-1664, forkidswhocook.com) cost $150 per couple on select Fridays from 6 to 9 p.m. Upcoming classes include St. Patty's Day (Fri., March 14).

• **HEARTH-COOKING WORKSHOP** at Strawbery Banke Museum (14 Hancock St., Portsmouth, 433-1100, strawberybanke.org) on Sun., March 16, Sat., March 29, and Sat., April 19, all from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Includes hands-on cooking at the Wheelwright House with historical recipes and bake-kettle cooking. Tickets cost $65, advance reservations required.

• **WINEMAKERS KITCHEN** Cooking with wine series at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, labellewinerynh.com) on Wed., March 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. Focuses on artisanal cheese, with wine and food tasting, cooking demo, and recipe to take-home. Cost $25, registration required.

• **SOURDOUGH & FERMENTATION** Soaking grains, pancakes, rice on Wed., March 26, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Brown Lane Barn (52 Brown Lane, Hollis) with Beaver Brook Nature Center. Costs $15, visit beaverbrook.org.

• **COOKING CONFIDENTIAL** Cooking classes at Colby Hill Inn (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) include an evening with the chef, hands-on cooking instruction, followed by a three-course dinner with wine on select Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Classes cost $125, and are held on March 31, and April 14. Advanced registration required.

FOOD

Cold-weather beer

Hardy brews to warm you up

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com



I have been skiing a lot this winter, and I have to admit, the only thing better than a great day on the slopes is a cold, refreshing beer afterward. In the summer, I usually choose something light, but during the colder months, I like a beer with a little more weight to it. There are also some great seasonal options out for a limited time.

My current favorite is **Samuel Adams Cold Snap**. One of my skiing buddies introduced me to it a couple months ago, and I have been enjoying it ever since. Thankfully, ski areas like Gunstock Mountain and Bretton Woods have it on draft right now.

Cold Snap is an unfiltered white ale made with orange peel, coriander and a special blend of spices. Sam Adams describes it as "stirring from the haze of winter … just the right refreshing kick to signal that spring is on its way."

I hope that spring doesn't come too quickly, though; I need some time to stock up on this seasonal beer before it's gone.

While some of Sam Adams' brews are made with Grains of Paradise, Cold Snap has its own blend of exotic fruits and spices. It reminds me slightly of Blue Moon but with less emphasis on the citrus. I like Sam Summer Ale, but it has a harsher finish for me, where Cold Snap is nice and smooth without that funky aftertaste. It is similar to White Lantern, a year-round Sam white ale, but is much lighter and less bitter.

If you're enjoying Cold Snap at a local pub or at home, try pairing it with sushi, quesadillas, or cheese steak. I like it on its own, cold out of the draft.

For something with a little more weight, try **Smuttynose Brewing Company's Winter Ale**, a reddish brown, amber beer made with dark Belgian candi syrup. Smuttynose calls this beer the "perfect cold weather companion," due to its warming and mellow qualities and fruity aroma.

A Blue Moon with an orange is a summer staple, but during the winter Blue Moon offers its **Mountain Abbey Ale**, a beer made with roasted malts that give it a caramel and toffee kick. Also made with dark Belgian candi syrup, this beer is an après ski warmer, similar to a chocolate stout but not quite as weighty. It finishes with toffee and caramel, with just a hint of chocolate. Skip the coffee and go straight for the Mountain Abbey Ale.

This is also a great beer to pair with pot roast, beef stew, other game meats or Crock-pot meals, and of course, chocolate desserts. You can even add it to pot roast for an extra kick. (Find the recipe on the Blue Moon website under Mountain Abbey Ale).

Locally, White Birch Brewing in Hooksett is celebrating winter with two winter beers: **Tavern Ale** and **Rusalka**, available until March. Tavern Ale is a smoked imperial brown ale named after Butter's Tavern, which was a well-known 18th-century Concord location. Named after the Tavern's loggerhead ale, this beer has some smokiness and hearty malts. This beer was also named to Draft Magazine's Top 25 Beers of 2011 list.

The name "Rusalka" sounds heavy, right? Then it's only fitting that this beer, named after deadly and beautiful water demons, is made from grains like barley, wheat and oats. The result is a dark ale with flavors of plums, raisins, burnt sugar and, of course, chocolate. This is the perfect beer to enjoy on a cold, dark winter night.

Looking ahead to spring, 603 Brewery in Londonderry has a spring seasonal called **Ice-Out Blonde Ale**. This beer celebrates ice out on Lake Winnipesaukee, when the M/S Mount Washington can once again cruise to her ports. This ale is lighter-bodied, celebrating our "refreshing escape from the bitter New Hampshire winter." Try it with grilled or light meats, chicken, fish or cheeses. Even better, a portion of the proceeds from this beer go to area non-profits that help protect the state's lakes and ponds. Sounds like a win-win.

If you're not a cold-weather person at all and cannot wait for summer to arrive, here is a little glimmer of hope. **Leinenkugel's Summer Shandy** has already hit the shelves, signaling that summer and warmer weather are on their way.





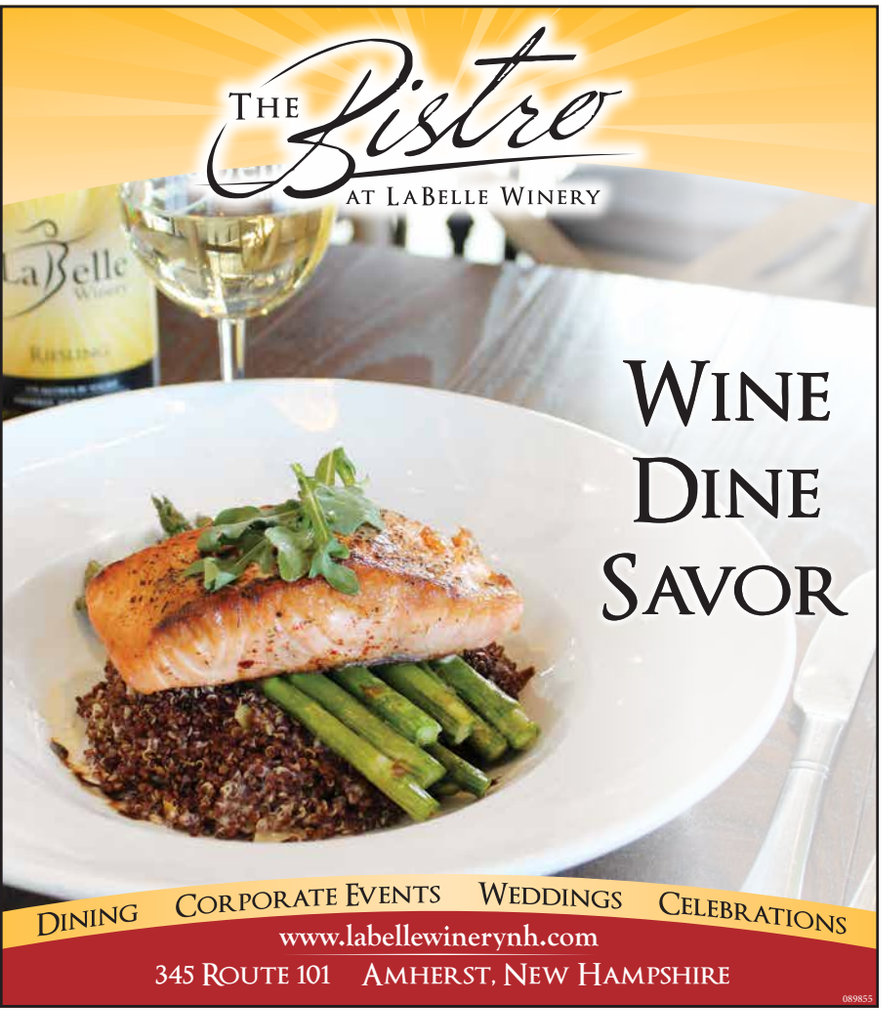




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DRINK

RED, WHITE &GREEN

Bottles for the budget-conscious wine-lover





Maybe if we all have a few glasses of white wine each week, we can just will winter to end. Maybe that — and the need to take a break from reds once in a while — is why we've found ourselves turning to whites here in late winter.

This week, we tried the **2013 Groth Sauvignon Blanc** from Napa Valley (regular price $24.99, but we found it on sale for $18.69 a while back). This is another example of how all sauvignon blancs are not the same. This one had aromas of honeysuckle and kiwi and a citrus-tinged smell of sweetness. Though clean, as you'd expect from a sauvignon blanc, the Groth didn't have the grassiness that you often find with this variety. It had a hint of sweetness, a citrus finish and a surprisingly round mouthfeel with a slight vanilla note.

Of course, you can't completely ignore winter and its heartier fare, so we also tried a red: the **2009 Lock & Key North Coast Meritage** from California ($15 from Hannaford). We're fans of the Bordeaux-like blend of varietals that go into Meritage wines. The dark brick red wine had a big, fruity nose with a hint of acid. The balance of acid and fruit came through in the flavor of the wine, where we found big cherry notes and an overall very pleasant round red fruit feel. Like so many blends, Lock & Key was a solid sipper on its own but also paired with a couple of different meals.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than $20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet.

Drink

Beer/wine/liquor tastings

• **RISING TIDE** tasting on Thurs., March 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **CIRCA WINES** tasting on Fri., March 7, at 4 p.m. at Cornucopia Wine & Cheese Market, 4 Front St., Exeter, 772-4447, cwinecheese.com.

• **603 BREWERY** tasting on Thurs., March 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **DOGFISH HEAD** tasting on Thurs., March 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barb's Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 369-4501, barbsbeeremporium.com.

• **WHITE BIRCH BREWING** tasting on Sat., March 15, from 11 a.m. to noon at McIntyre Ski Area, 50 Chalet Way, Manchester, 622-6159.

• **FOUNDERS** tasting on Thurs., March 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

Beer/wine dinners

• **BELLE AMBIANCE WINE DINNER** Wed., March 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Napa East (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, 595-9463, napaeast.com). Five-course dinner each paired with a wine from Delicato Winery's new Belle Ambience wines. Tickets cost $60. Reservations required.

• **MICROBREW VS WINE DINNER** at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com) on Thurs., March 20, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., pairs a wine and a beer with each course. Tickets cost $49.95.

• **EIGHTIES NIGHT** at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com) on Fri., March 21, from 6 to 11 p.m. Includes DJ, cash bar and light finger foods. Cost $25.

Beer/wine events

• **PAINT AND SIP** Tues., March 11, at 7 p.m. at Jocelyn's Mediterranean Restaurant and Martini Bar (355 S. Broadway, Salem, 870-0045, jocelynsrestaurant.com). Includes featured painting with step-by-step instruction. Costs $45. Visit theartistbar.com to register.

• **CHOCOLATE, WINE & CHEESE FESTIVAL** Fri., March 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sky Meadow Country Club (6 Mountain Laurels Drive, Nashua) with over 50 international and domestic wines, artisan chocolates and cheese for tasting. Includes half-hour pairing seminar. Tickets cost $25, and $5 for designated drivers. Visit nashuatelegraph.com/events.

Beer/wine tasting classes

• **SOUTHERN FRANCE AND SPAIN** Thurs., March 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at WineNot Boutique (170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com). Cost $40.

• **PAIRING WINE WITH FOOD** Fri., March 7, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Wine Steward (201 Route 111, Hampstead, 329-4634, thewinestewardnh.com) tasting class and discussion on the do's and don'ts of wine pairings. Costs $50.

• **WINES OF ITALY** Thurs., March 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at WineNot Boutique (170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com). $40.

• **NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN WINES** Thurs., March 20, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at WineNot Boutique (170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com). $40.

Beer/wine making classes

• **ST. PAT'S BREWFEST** at IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com). Brew two variety cases (bottles not included) on Thurs., March 6, at 6 p.m., cost $60. Includes Irish Dry Stout, Double Dublin and Irish Red Ale. Return in two weeks for bottling.

• **MARCH MEADNESS** Three separate brewing nights at IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com). Wed., March 26, at 7 p.m. features traditional mead; Thurs., March 27, at 7 p.m. features cranberry malbec mead; and Fri., March 28, at 7 p.m. features green apple riesling mead. Snacks and refreshments included. Return in six weeks for bottling. $65 for a case of six bottles.

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennott@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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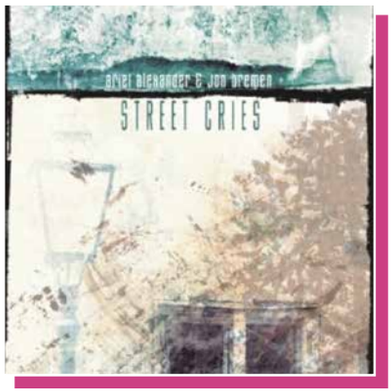
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POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, GAMES, COMICS, MOVIES, DVDS, TV AND MORE

Ariel Alexander & Jon Bremen, Street Cries (Jazz Collective Records)



Fascinating bit of experimental jazz here, using the tag-you're-it approach of having each musician record their parts on their own time. The project directors (both are doctors) here are based out of L.A., sax-player Alexander having worked with Stevie Wonder and folks like that, guitarist Bremen a bebop-weaned guy whose effects-pedal approach is often ethereal in its wispy Nels Cline-like originality. But what grabs you at first — and you'll have to listen to this short five-songer a couple of times to get a grip on the whole — is drummer Louis Cole's blocky, woody sound, which churns along in drum-n-bass style on opener "Street Cries of Charleston," a touchstone Amen showing up within the breakbeats. That track isn't Alexander's strongest; she's not an enthusiastic rocker, but the sweet dinner-chill of "Daisy" shows that she can make her sax do some uncommonly good things. Lively stuff, very proggy, absolutely cutting edge anywhere you drop the needle. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Neneh Cherry, Blank Project (Smalltown Supersound Records)



Fourth solo LP from the quirky artist whose "Buffalo Stance"-highlighted debut LP lost the 1990 Best New Artist Grammy to Milli Vanilli, who subsequently had it revoked owing to fraud — boy, the '90s were just a watershed, weren't they? Because she's agonizingly cutting-edge, she involved reverse-techno art-pop guy Four Tet with this, producing sparse beats for Cherry to blather her stream-of-consciousness over; the beats sound like they came out of a tin can Burial was going to add to beef stew or something, such as the gentle-jungle breakbeats on "Naked" here. It's very sparse, hopeful, tribal and friendly; I could imagine this stuff being absolutely loved by haggard soccer moms who've finally found 20 minutes to enjoy a Starbucks, no question about it. Opening tune "Across the Water" is the least-adorned of anything on board, lazy beatnik percussion statements the only sounds buoying Cherry's rap-and-singalong reflections on (I think) motherly life. Robyn guests on the gloomily wub-wubbing "Out of the Black." **A-** — *Eric W. Saeger*

PLAYLIST

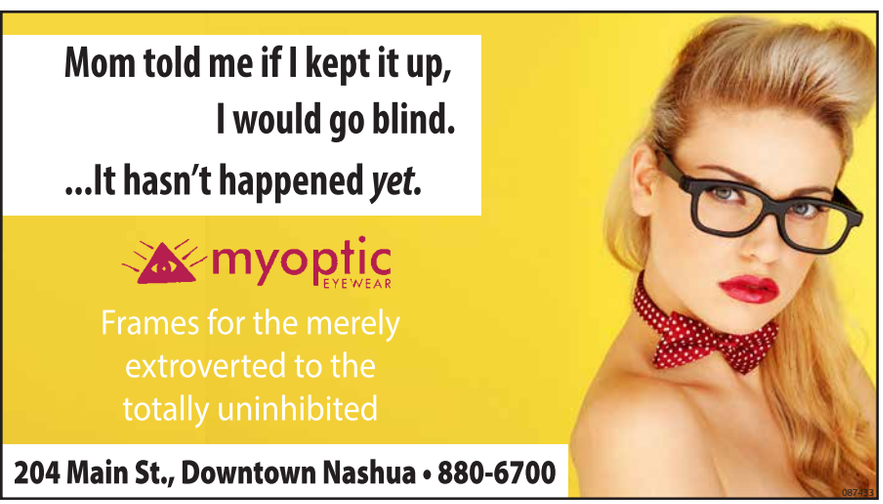
A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Older hipsters may remember Galaxie 500, the spaghetti-western-indie band that gave way to Luna and other pretty cool offshoots later on, after front guy **Dean Wareham** got tired of doing spaghetti-western-indie and decided to do, um, spaghetti-western-indie with a few effects, or not, maybe sometimes. Next week sees Wareham's first solo full-length, a self-titled album that may or may not feature a few things from his *Emancipated Hearts* EP, like the song "Air," which sounds like Crash Test Dummies sitting around a campfire with tambourines. Someone from My Morning Jacket is involved in this somehow, but the info on Wareham's website was so convoluted and boring I basically went into screensaver mode and went off looking for cute kitty videos instead of working to make any sense out of it.

• With the new **311** album *Stereolythic* coming out next week, you'd figure I'd just barf on this section of the column and submit that as my preview jive, but I can't say that I hate the first single, "Five of Everything," from this new album. I didn't think anyone would ever attempt a cross between Sublime and Hootie and the Blowfish, but that's what it sounds like, really, a minor tweak of their prior white-reggae nonsense singles, which always sucked, as you'll recall.

• Soccer-cowgirl-mom **Sara Evans** releases her seventh LP, *Slow Me Down*, on Tuesday. Evans has come a long way since her *Dancing With the Stars* harikari and her messy divorce, wherein her ex-husband, some lowlife southern politician dude, accused her of sleeping with basically half the people on the country charts, including Kenny Chesney, who says he totally didn't sleep with her, so it must totally be true. The title song from this doomed album is half Dixie Chicks and half Enya, like it starts off all New Age, and in the video she's wearing a wedding dress because you have just entered Chick Flick Central, but then here come the rockin' guitars, because rockin' guitars will never die, so have a nice tall glass of rockin' guitars, Chick Flick Central!

• There are only so many possible band names for metal bands, and sometimes there's just no way to go except to add a country identifier to your heavy metal band name. Thus, voila, we have **Architects UK**, who are not to be confused with Architects Aruba or Architects Mongolia — accept no substitutes. Its self-titled debut LP will be out next week; you'll find it in your record store between Architects Somosa and Architects Virgin Islands. — *Eric W. Saeger*







GAMER REVIEWS

Octodad: Dadliest Catch (PC/PS4 - forthcoming)

Young Horses

The sequel to the DePaul University student project *Octodad* continues video gaming's well-established fascination with an octopus masquerading as a human.

While there is a level of polish to the presentation and puzzles of *Dadliest Catch* (which, by the way, STILL makes me laugh every time I read it), the core concept remains the same. Octodad is an octopus in a three-piece suit. He's a father of two children and a devoted husband, and you must guide him through everyday family life without arousing suspicions about his secret identity. In essence, *Octodad: Dadliest Catch* is a very light puzzle adventure game akin to classic LucasArts titles *Sam & Max* and *Monkey Island*.

The mundane tasks Octo must perform — grabbing a frozen pizza or grilling burgers, for instance — involve the slightest uses of deduction in order to see the correct path. The challenge lies in the unique control scheme Octodad presents.

Control is toggled between individual arms and legs, each of which can only be employed independently. To scuttle across the room you must alternate pulling controller triggers while leaning into the analog sticks to stretch your tentacles and lope about. To manipulate small objects, which almost always involves tumbling over a hundred other objects, you switch to your "hands" and guide them toward interactable objects. Once he's grasped them, Octo can flail coffee pots, lawn mowers, stuffed animals and the like about to accomplish his otherwise straightforward goal in the wobbliest of possible manners.

Navigating the charming but simple environment in this manner is delightfully absurd to the point of frustration. It is akin to reading a paperback book with your toes. Yes, you can do it, but the amount of focus and effort required to dial down the grossness of your gross motor skills is astounding. Let's say you manage to pick up the book. Hooray! What a great feeling of accomplishment. Now open the cover. Double hooray! Who knew you could do that with just your feet?! Next turn a page without destroying it. What?! You did! Well, that is amazing. Let's read the rest of the novel this way. Or not, because, well, why?

While you might improve in your ability to manipulate Octo and set him about his life, he never improves. He never gets better, and the world around him only ever demands more. This translates to a game that is enjoyable in one long go but suffers if you have to step away for an hour or a day. The shock of stepping back into Octodad's shoe-stacles can quickly erase the charm of its so-dumb-it's-fun environment and story — especially when you had previously left off at a challenging chase sequence or fiddly puzzle.

Octodad: Dadliest Catch is funny, cute and adorably stupid (also oddly existential when you take Octodad's family to the aquarium). The unique control scheme becomes tiresome just slightly before the humor loses steam and the developers have enough sense not to let Octodad linger too long. **B+**

— Glenn Given

Glenn Given is a writer, designer and game maker. You can find more of his reviews at gamesbyplaydate.com



Octodad: Dadliest Catch















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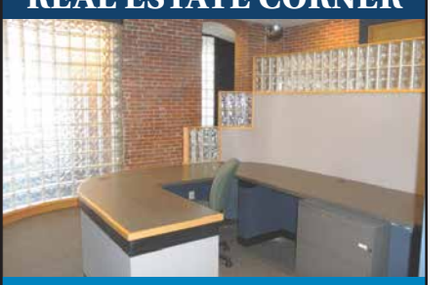
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POP

Writers' Project gets busy

Fiction slam final, followed by Writers' Day

By Kelly Sennott

ksennott@hippopress.com

Halligan Tavern's tiny upstairs function room was full of writers, onlookers, listeners and hopeful walk-ons last Tuesday night. It was the last qualifying event before the New Hampshire Writers' Project's Three Minute Fiction Slam final on March 6, and judging by the packed tables and animated conversations, anticipation for the prize at stake — a free ticket to New Hampshire Writers' Day — was intense.

The judges chose Ed Ting of Derry, with second place going to Catherine Geiger and third to Tony Rivera.

"It's really nerve-wracking, to go up there," Rivera said shortly after the winners were announced. "It's so fast. You have to fit so much in a very small space."

March is a big month for the New Hampshire Writers' Project. In addition to the annual fiction slam series, which ends with the finals Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the New Hampshire Institute of Art, it's also the month for New Hampshire Writers' Day, the signature NHWP annual event. This is the first year the two events will be separated.

"We simply thought the fiction slam event was growing beyond Writers' Day," NHWP president John Herman said in an email. "It certainly deserves to be its own special event, so we decided to give it a shot."

The final will be like the last weeks of *American Idol* for flash fiction writers, with judges Tim Horvath, Rebecca Rule and James Patrick Kelly deciding the ultimate winner. A wine and cheese reception will precede the event at 7 p.m., and author Kyle Minor will present a keynote speech.

The winner of the Three Minute Fiction Slam will read the winning piece during New Hampshire Writers' Day, which this year is Saturday, March 22, from 8 to 5:30 p.m. at Southern New Hampshire University.

There's still plenty of room for writers to attend the organization's signature event chock-full of brand-new workshops, networking opportunities and conversations for "would-be, could-be, want-to-be and most-definitely-are writers," as board member Rob Greene described in the press release.

To name just a small portion: "Turning Your Family History into Fiction" with Henriette Lazaridis Power; "Everything You Need to Know to Write a Best-Selling Memoir" with Lois Cahall; "The Twists and Turns on the Road to Publication: A Writer's Journey" with Katharine Britton; "Locking in the First Pages" with Michelle Hoover; and "Circles, Lines and Negative Space: Shaping Up Your Poems" with New Hampshire poet laureate Alice B. Fogel. There will be seminars led by professional writers, editors, agents and publishers, and the opportunity for writers to have face-to-face manuscript critiques and agent/publisher one-on-one pitch sessions.

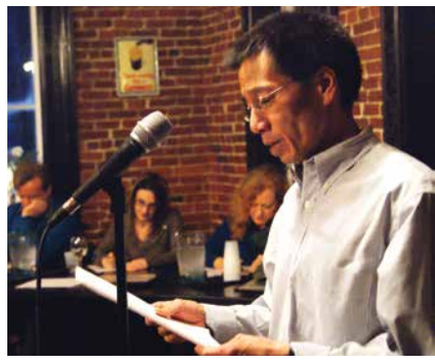
Writers' Day keynote speaker is B.A. Shapiro, bestselling author of *The Art Forger*.

"I think she'll be a great keynote speaker," said Writers' Day organizer Amy Fuchocki. "She has so much information to impart. She'll talk about balancing family, children, time, all things we struggle with as writers."

The Writers' Project, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, is a resource for writers, booksellers, literary agents and anyone in related fields. It holds events and meetings year round, but Writers' Day is the key event each year.

"I'd been attending Writers' Day year after year," Fuchocki said in a phone interview. "I learned from workshops about how to make my writing better, and then it finally happened for me." Barking Rain Press bought her book, *Dangerous Denial*. Under her pen name, Amy Ray, the book will be released March 11.

The NH Writers' Project has scaled back a bit this year — it now runs under an all-volunteer model, the way the project began.



Ed Ting, the winner of the Derry semi-final Three Minute Fiction Slam. John Herman photo.

Writers' Day 2014

When: Saturday, March 22, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Where: Southern New Hampshire University, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester

Admission: $205

More information: For complete schedule of events and list of workshops, visit writersday.org. You can sign up until the day of the event, which caps off at 300 and ends with the New Hampshire Literary Awards ceremony, which is free of charge.

Three Minute Fiction Slam final

Where: New Hampshire Institute of Art French Building, 148 Concord St., Manchester

When: Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. (Wine/cheese reception at 7 p.m.)

Admission: Free

TOP 10 Epic fantasy

For the week of March 3
(Barnesandnoble.com)

1. ***George R. R. Martin's A Game of Thrones 5-Book Boxed Set (Song of Ice and Fire series): A Game of Thrones, A Clash of Kings, A Storm of Swords, A Feast for Crows, and A Dance with Dragons***
By George R. R. Martin
Mass Market Paperback, October 2013

2. ***Words of Radiance (Stormlight Archive Series #2)***
By Brandon Sanderson
Hardcover, March 2014

3. ***A Dance with Dragons (A Song of Ice and Fire #5)***
By George R. R. Martin
Paperback, October 2013

4. ***A Memory of Light (Wheel of Time Series #14)***
By Robert Jordan, Brandon Sanderson
Mass Market Paperback, December 2013

5. ***Mistborn Trilogy Boxed Set***
By Brandon Sanderson
Mass Market Paperback, November 2009

6. ***The Name of the Wind (Kingkiller Chronicles Series #1)***
By Patrick Rothfuss
Mass Market Paperback, April 2008

7. ***The Lord of the Rings***
By J. R. R. Tolkien
Paperback, October 2005

8. ***Witch Wraith: The Dark Legacy of Shannara***
By Terry Brooks
Mass Market Paperback, December 2013

9. ***A Game of Thrones 4-Book Boxed Set (A Song of Ice and Fire Series)***
By George R. R. Martin
Paperback, March 2011

10. ***J.R.R. Tolkien 4-Book Boxed Set: The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings***
By J. R. R. Tolkien
Mass Market Paperback, September 2012

***Leaders Eat Last: Why Some Teams Pull Together and Others Don't*, by Simon Sinek (Portfolio Penguin, 216 pages)**



Simon Sinek calls himself a "trained ethnographer" and, more simply, an optimist, good for those who don't have a dictionary at hand.

Ethnographer = one who studies the culture of groups.

Without context, this author's biography looks suspiciously like that of a shyster, someone schooled too heavily in Seth Godin and Timothy Ferris, and too little in mathematics, science and the classics. It's a relief, therefore, to learn that Sinek earned an anthropology degree from Brandeis University, and there appears to be a compassionate and grounded intellect underpinning his commercial success.

This seems important, as Sinek coaches not only business people but military leaders on success strategies. If prose had a color, this book would be camouflage green, for it's thick with references to the U.S. Armed Forces.

Leaders Eat Last is a continuation of themes Sinek presented in his first book, 2006's *Start With Why*, *How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action*. That book introduced the "golden circle" into the nation's business lexicon: the idea that communicating *why* a business or individual does something is more important to its success than explaining the "what" or the "how."

Sinek continues with geometric principles in *Leaders Eat Last*, describing a "circle of safety" that businesses must build if they are to prosper. While human beings no longer have to fear the pounce of a sabre-tooth tiger, the ancient machinations of our brains still work much as our ancestors' did. And unease in the workplace — whether from fear of losing our jobs, or suffering psychological wounds inflicted by a scheming co-worker — destroys an organization from the inside out.

"Intimidation, humiliation, isolation, feeling dumb, feeling useless and rejection are all stresses we try to avoid inside the organization. But the danger inside is controllable and it should be the goal of leadership to set up a culture free of danger from each other," Sinek writes.

It's a useful analogy, not only for businesses but for individuals and for families. And with an emphasis on business strategies anchored in ethics, Sinek slips into the chair once occupied by the late Stephen Covey, whose *The 7 Habits of Highly Successful People* became both a brand and an empire.

Like Covey, Sinek urges actions beget by values, but he goes further, plumbing that Brandeis education to add a scientific bent.

In *Start With Why*, he explained that the "golden circle" is enabled by opposing components of the brain — the neocortex and the limbic system — and that their workings dictate that humans are more motivated by "why" than by "what."

In *Leaders Eat Last*, biochemicals rule, and an understanding of "the selfish chemicals" (endorphins and dopamine) and the "selfless chemicals" (serotonin and oxytocin) coursing through us will show leaders and parents the path to success. (Think parents don't have competitors? Check out the big boxes in your media room.)

The parenting analogy is not just mine. Sinek writes, "Everything about being a leader is like being a parent. It is about committing to the well-being of those in our care and having a willingness to make sacrifices to see their interests advanced so that they may carry our banner long after we are gone."

And in giving examples of how these principles have already worked, Sinek points out that when families encounter difficult times, they don't fire a kid. Instead, the family works as a unit to economize, just like Bob Chapman did.

Chapman is the CEO of a St. Louis company that lost 30 percent of its orders in 2008 and considered layoffs to survive. Instead, Chapman embraced a new vision for the company, one in which he was the protector and the workers a family. With a retooled philosophy and a furlough program, which the employees enthusiastically embraced, the company achieved twice the savings it needed and continues to grow an average of 18 percent each year. Crisis averted with a little love and tenderness.

Leaders Eat Last begins with a dismaying foreword by a retired lieutenant general of the U.S. Marines, one that informs us that Sinek "would like to make the world a better place." Those who think the world would be a better place without platitudes might drop the book right then, as if singed.

And Sinek himself succumbs to the withered and obvious at times. ("The environment in which we work, and the way we interact with each other, *really* matters.")

But stay with him. Sinek's is a soothing, colloquial voice that uses anecdotes and stories to teach best practices vetted by history and by values. For the genre, it's a smart, likeable book penned by a smart, likeable guy. "Leadership, true leadership, is not the bastion of those who sit at the top. It is the responsibility of anyone who belongs to the group," he writes. "Let us all be the leaders we wish we had."

That's "do unto others" in business-speak, a command often uttered and seldom employed. But Sinek is an able courier for an old message. **B** — *Jennifer Graham*

CHILDREN'S ROOM

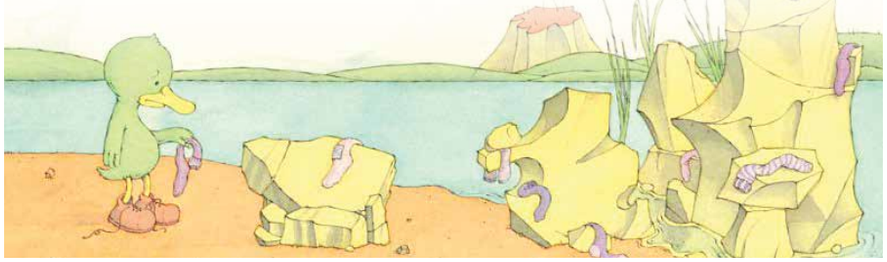
A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library

Have You Seen My New Blue Socks

Written by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Sergio Ruzzier, 2013

(Picture book, 4-8 years)

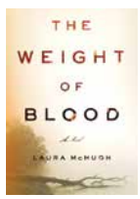
Duck seeks help from his friends fox, ox, and a family of peacocks to help find his missing blue socks. Spoiler alert: there's a happy, surprise ending that eagle-eyed readers might guess before the last page. This rhyming picture book is also easy enough for some beginning readers.



OUT NEXT WEEK

The Weight of Blood: A Novel

By Laura McHugh



Hits shelves: March 11

Author best known for: Nothing, yet — this is her debut novel

One-sentence review: "This is an outstanding first novel, replete with suspense, crisp dialogue, and vivid Ozarks color and atmosphere." — Publishers Weekly

Meet the Authors!

March 7th 5PM
Young Adult author **Shannon Hale**, with her new action adventure book 'Dangerous'!

March 13th 7PM
Daniel Thomas Moran's 'A Shed for Wood' Launch celebration

March 19th 7PM
PSNH Martha Carlson-Bradley and **Lee Sharkey** Poetry Society meeting

March 20th 7PM
James Scott's debut novel 'The Kept'

March 25th 7PM
UNICEF Ambassador **Ishmael Beah,** 'Radiance of Tomorrow'

March 27th 7PM
There are No Do-Overs: The Big Red Factors for Sustaining a Business Long Term with **David William Cowens, Tom Raffio & Barbara McLaughlin!**

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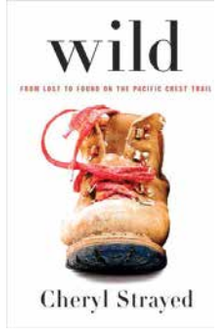
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FROM THE
BOOKSHELF



***Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed**

I'd seen that *Wild* was on the front shelves of most local bookstores, that it had made Oprah's book club list and, more recently, that Reese Witherspoon would be playing the lead character in the 2014 film version, but it wasn't until a friend of mine recommended it to me recently that I decided to read about Cheryl Strayed's 1995 trek on the Pacific Crest Trail.

I read this book through the New Hampshire Downloadable Book Consortium, half via ebook and half via audiobook on my commute to and from work. I don't always finish audiobooks, but this one was a good listen; the reader, Bernadette Dunne, didn't have a distracting accent or whistle when she read words with the letter 's' in them.

The PCT is a long-distance trail that starts at the U.S. border with Mexico and travels all the way to British Columbia, Canada — it's like the cousin of the Appalachian Trail on our side of the country. What makes Strayed's adventure so significant is that she did it alone, as a woman. Most who hike these really long trails do so in teams; that way, you have less to carry throughout the entire trip, which Strayed learned the hard way. (At the beginning of the memoir, she made the rookie mistake of trying to carry far too much; the pack, which she later lovingly named Monster, was so full she could hardly lift it.)

I'd read Bill Bryson's *A Walk in the Woods*, about his adventures on the AT, which I enjoyed because it was funny and informative, but *Wild* wasn't quite like that. It was about Strayed's hike, yes, which was exquisitely described — Strayed writes about the physical strain of hiking icy mountains and long, lonely trails with such detail that at points, I felt tired for her — but the second part of Strayed's title, *From Lost to Found on The Pacific Crest Trail*, is about her journey through grief and recovery from the loss of her mother.

I liked the book because I'm a beginner hiker, but what made it a worthy read was it wasn't all about the walking alone, carrying a pack and the horrors of lone hiking, which might mean doing things like accidentally dropping a boot down a deep ravine. (She starts the memoir out with this scene. It's devastating.) You see Strayed's thoughts, memories and backstory as she travels alone, which not only breaks up the monotony but makes Strayed a relatable character. Despite her imperfections — which, at 26 and coming from a broken marriage, she's very honest about — you can't help but root for her. — *Kelly Sennott*

Books

Author events

• **KATE ALCOTT** (pseudonym for Patricia O'Brien) author of *The Daring Ladies of Lowell* and *The Dressmaker* speaks at the Durham Public Library, 49 Madbury Road, Durham, on Fri., March 7, at 10:30 a.m.

• **SHANNON HALE** visits Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Fri., March 7, at 5 p.m., to talk about her book, *Dangerous*. Call 224-0562, visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **BECKY SAKELLARIOU** reads from and signs *What Shall I Cry?* on Sat., March 8, at 11 a.m., at Toadstool Bookshop, 12 Depot Sq., Peterborough, 924-3543.

• **HELEN PEPPE** talks about *Pigs Can't Swim: A Memoir* at Toadstool Bookshop, 222 W. St., Keene, 352-8815, on Sat., March 8, at 11 a.m., and the Peterborough Toadstool, 924-3543, 12 Depot Sq., on Sat., March 8, at 2 p.m.

• **ERIC MASTERSON** presents *Birdwatching in New Hampshire* at Lawrence Barn, 28 Depot Road, Hollis, on Sat., March 8, at 3 p.m. Co-sponsored by Beaver Brook, Hollis Library.

• **SUNDAY GRANITE STATE AUTHORS SERIES** readings, discussions, book signings by Hobblebush authors at LaBelle Winery, 345 Route 101, Amherst, RSVP at tinyurl.com/GSAatLaBelle. Reception at 3 p.m., reading at 3:30 p.m., author meet-and-greet at 4:15 p.m., free. Eric Pinder talks about *Life at the Top* on Sun., March 9; Alice B. Fogel, S. Stephanie (for Walter Butts) and Patricia Fargnoli present *Strange Terrain, Cathedral of Nervous Horses* and *Winter* on Sun., April 6; Sidney Hall, Jr. presents *Small Town Tales* on Sun., May 4; Julia Older presents *Tales of the Francois Vase* on Sun., June 8; and Tom Fitzgerald presents *Poor Richard's Lament* on Sun., July 20.

• **DAN SZCZESNY** talks about *The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie* at the Tucker Free Library, 31 Western Ave., Henniker, on Sun., March 9, at 2 p.m.; at the Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, on Wed., March 19, at 7 p.m.; at the Meredith Public Library, 91 Main St., Meredith, on Tues., March 25, at 6:30 p.m.; at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, on Tues., April 8, at 7 p.m.; at the Griffin Free Library, 22 Hooksett Road, Auburn, on Monday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m.

• **PETER WAYNE** talks about *The Harvard Medical School Guide to Tai Chi: 12 Weeks to a Healthy Body, Strong Heart and Sharp Mind* at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Sun., March 9, at 7 p.m. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com, call 224-0562.

• **JOHN D. MAYER** UNH professor shares *Personal Intelligence: The Power of Personality and How It Shapes Our Lives* on Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m., at Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter, 778-9731, waterstreetbooks.com.

• **APRIL BERNARD** speaks as part of the Eagle Pond Authors Series on Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m., at Silver Center for the Arts, Plymouth State, 114 Main St., Plymouth, 779-3869, free, reservations required.

• **DANIEL THOMAS MORAN** presents latest volume of verse, *A Shed for Wood*, on Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Call 224-0562, visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

Non-Stop (PG-13)

Liam Neeson offers another entry in his ass-kicking oeuvre with *Non-Stop*, a nonsensical but — who cares — totally fun bit of action fluff.

2009: Taken. 2011: Unknown. 2012: The Grey. Does the man know how to do late-winter action or what?

Bill Marks (Neeson) is an air marshal aboard a flight to London from New York City. Shortly after takeoff, he receives a string of texts telling him that a passenger will die in 20 minutes if $150 million isn't wired to an account. Bill, who is sitting in first class, checks with the air marshal (Shea Whigham) in coach and then with the pilot (Linus Roache). Neither seems to think that the texts are anything but a hoax, but Bill keeps investigating with the help of flight attendant Nancy (Michelle Dockery) and his seat mate Jen (Julianne Moore), the two people he thinks he can trust because they weren't texting at the time he received the messages. He hones in on a few suspects, but then time is up and a dead body unexpectedly appears. The clock is reset, but Bill quickly finds himself in an even more sticky situation than he'd originally imagined. His boss on the ground thinks Bill is losing his mind or, later, is in on the hijacking. The crew isn't sure what Bill's status is and the passengers, as they awaken to find an air marshal searching their phones, start to freak out.

Non-Stop is like a game of Clue — by which I mean that anybody could have done it. Liam Neeson in the cockpit with a coffee pot, Lady Mary Crawley in the aisle with the drink cart, requisite Arab guy (Omar Metwally) in the bathroom with poison. The movie lingers on this one's eyes or does a close-up on that one's hands, we get a throwaway line of Bill's backstory here and there that suggests perhaps it's our protagonist (from whose vantage point we are ostensibly getting the story) who is unreliable. The movie plays it so that up until the big reveal anybody could have done it.

Remember the *Simpsons* episode "Das Bus," in which the school bus crashes and a group of kids lives, *Lord of the Flies*-style, on an island? The episode ends with a narrator saying "and eventually they were rescued by, oh, let's say, Moe." That is a how the big reveal of what is truly going on in *Non-Stop* felt — random and afterthought-ish. While the identity of the villain is telegraphed fairly heavily, the execution of it — how it was all done, and why — seemed like it had been made up on the fly. All the movie's creative efforts seem to have been spent thinking up new places and new ways in which Neeson can beat the Dickens out of somebody. And this is fine — Neeson beating the Dickens out of people is why *Taken* is a movie I've rewatched on cable pretty much every time I've flipped past it. In fact, for people who've been looking forward to this movie for just that reason let me say that Neeson does indeed engage in fighting in an airplane bathroom (one, if it can fit two people in it, about 10 times bigger than any airplane bathroom I've seen in the last decade) and that sequence alone is worth the price of admission.



Non-Stop

But the movie, having assembled a pretty solid cast and set up the premise that I'm sure sold the screenplay (Liam Neeson fighting unknown enemy on a plane), the movie doesn't let us unwrap the mystery so much as it flips over the cards and says "Colonel Mustard in the library with the candlestick, you know, because." It wouldn't have taken much more energy to play on the atmosphere of discomfort and suspicion that is part of modern air travel and create something enjoyably wry and clever.

There's a difference between "twist I didn't see coming" and "random plot construction," and in trying to achieve A, this movie has wandered too far into B. That said, *Non-Stop* still offers a punching, growling Neeson punching and growling with the best of them as well as moments of humor, both intentional and unintentional. We know you have a lot of choices when you go to the movies, but action fans will thank themselves for choosing *Non-Stop*. **B-**

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of action and violence, some language, sensuality, and drug references. Directed by Jaume Collet-Serra with a screenplay by John W. Richardson & Christopher Roach and Ryan Engle, Non-Stop *is an hour and 46 minutes long and is distributed by Universal Pictures.*

Son of God (PG-13)

The New Testament gets a new movie adaptation in *Son of God*.

Actually, it's not completely new — most of *Son of God* is, according to media reports, from the miniseries *The Bible*, which aired last year on the History channel. The movie contains scenes from the series as well as scenes shot for the series but not used on TV. The movie begins with a "previously in the Bible" montage that gives us clips from major biblical stories from "In the beginning" through Jesus' birth, which gets a slightly longer treatment with your three kings and your manger and all the trimmings. The movie itself really gets started with adult Jesus (Diogo Morgado) meeting Peter (Darwin Shaw). Scenes of Jesus and his apostles walking through the countryside and through the major story points are intercut with scenes in Jerusalem of Roman governor Pontius Pilate (Greg Hicks) and/or Jewish priests led by Caiaphas (Adrian Schiller) worrying about the trouble stirred up by that fellow from some little town in Galilee.

This isn't so much a movie as it is a greatest hits of Jesus moments, acted out much like a church nativity pageant ("hit your mark to create the tableau" seems to be the sole motivation of all the actors) and then sewn together with narration and a very odd score (think spa music plus Bruckheimer drums). The movie isn't, as far as I can tell, trying to say anything interesting or give us any particular window on events. Even messages about faith or sacrifice are muddled and the movie never lets any of the characters, even the apostles at their most questioning, behave or sound like real people. Morgado's Jesus has two facial expressions — brows lightly furrowed or Da Vinci-esque smile — and most of the rest of the cast seems fine with letting their scruffy beards and burlap robes do the character-building for them. When Roma Downey (who co-produced the movie with her husband, Mark Burnett) shows up (with "natural look" make-up and hair in finger waves, looking ready to shoot the moisturizer commercial) as Jesus' mother, Mary, she seems intent on doing all the emoting duties but her soap-operatic tears don't add any emotional weight to the poorly paced proceedings.

I like a good Bible movie. As with dance movies, Bible movies are usually entertaining even when they're not exactly great art. (And if it sounds like I'm being sacrilegious, just consider that I'm talking about movies; in screening rooms near the *Son of God* screening room you'll find the extended cut of *Anchorman 2* and the reboot of *Robocop*. The story might have religious origins, but the movieness of it is pure Hollywood.) I'm totally psyched for Darren Aronofsky's *Noah,* not to mention the upcoming *Exodus* movie that casts Christian Bale as Moses. Just that last sentence alone sounds completely bonkers; sign me up! But *Son of God* offers nothing interesting in the way it tells this well-known story.

The movie is, I assume, an attempt to capture the dollars of church-goers looking for compelling, religious-themed entertainment. But *Son of God* doesn't give the audience more than pretty pictures. **D**

REVIEWLETS

* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go to hippopress.com

Opening soon:

March 7: *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (R) gives us another look inside Wes Anderson's brain; *300: Rise of an Empire* (R) brings us the sequel (or something) to the 2006 glorification of CGI abs; *Mr. Peabody & Sherman* (PG) is an animated movie featuring Mr. Peabody (the dog), Sherman (the boy) and the WABAC machine.

March 14: *Need For Speed* (PG-13) Adapted from the video game, this movie stars Dominic Cooper and Aaron Paul; *Veronica Mars* (PG-13) You kickstarted it, Marshmallows, and now the continuation of the story of the teen detective, now all grown up and living outside of Neptune, Calif., hits screens big and small; *Bad Words* (R) Jason Bateman directs and stars in this comedy; *Enemy* (R) Jake Gyllenhaal stars in this thriller; *One Chance* (PG-13) A would-be opera singer gets his big shot on *Britain's Got Talent*.

Now playing:

About Last Night **(R)** Kevin Hart, Regina Hall. Hart and Hall are the com, Michal Ealy and Joy Bryant the rom in this slightly above average release. **C+**

****The LEGO Movie*** **(PG)** Voices of Chris Pratt and Elizabeth Banks. And, delightfully, Will Ferrell. This solid tale of LEGOs protecting their world from "Kragle" has adventure, comedy, visual cleverness and sweetness. **A**

Pompeii **(PG-13)** Kiefer Sutherland, Kit Harington. Boring, by-the-numbers take on what it was like when a green-screen volcano destroyed a green-screen city in ancient Rome. **D**

3 Days to Kill **(PG-13)** Kevin Costner, Amber Heard. Baffling mish-mash of comedy, action and family drama. **D**

Winter's Tale **(R)** Jessica Brown Findlay, Colin Farrell. Magicy but not magical movie about love and time travel in New York City does not adequately make up for the loss of Mrs. Tom Branson. **C**

Start Here . . .Go Anywhere!

Friday Night Film Series

presents

Everyone's Going to Die

Not yet rated, but with adult situations (2013) 83 mins. This is the story of Melanie, whose life in a seaside town is going nowhere until she meets Ray, back in town with a shady job to do. A moment's escape becomes a chance to save themselves, and each other. *Everyone's Going To Die* is a modern British story about coming home, getting by and the redemptive power of feeling you're not alone.

Friday, March 7, 7pm
Sweeney Auditorium
Open to the public, admission $10.

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SCREEN SHOT

OSCAR RESULTS



Maybe it wasn't Ellen DeGeneres' best night ever, but I did OK.

At Sunday's Oscar awards, host DeGeneres did probably what she was supposed to do, which was to be basically likeable and inoffensive. DeGeneres can take pride in coming in well above Seth MacFarlane, even if she falls below top-of-his-game Billy Crystal.

For me and my predictions, however, it was an above average night.

Of the 15 predictions I made, 12 turned out to be accurate, giving me the rare 80-percent success rate. (I guessed wrong for director and in the animated and live action shorts categories.)

So, as we say goodbye to another award season, let me recommend:

• That if you haven't seen these already, you seek out Oscar telecast clips of Pharrell's performance of "Happy," Idina Menzel's performance of "Let It Go," John Travolta's attempt to say Idina Menzel's name and, for my money, the best acceptance speech of the night, which came from "Let It Go"'s authors, Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez.

• That, even though best director winner *Gravity* is available on video, you try to see it in a theater if you can (in 3-D if you can) because it's totally worth the hassle. And, if you can't catch it in theaters, at least watch it on the biggest screen in your house.

• That, since *12 Years a Slave* is scheduled for release on DVD this week, there's no excuse now not to see this year's best picture winner.

• That you watch some shorts: in particular, winner *Mr. Hublot* and *Room on the Broom* from the animated category and *The Voorman Problem* and *Do I Have To Take Care Of Everything?* from the live action category.

• That you do put the list of nine best picture nominees in your Netflix queue. These wouldn't have been my nine picks for best movies of 2013, but they are all solid films that have broad audience appeal.

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences and bloody depictions of the Crucifixion and for some sequences of violence. Directed by Christopher Spencer with a screenplay by Richard Bedser, Christopher Spencer, Colin Swash and Nic Young, Son of God *is two hours and 18 minutes long and distributed by 20th Century Fox.*

The Wind Rises (PG-13)

Hayao Miyazaki, the man behind *Ponyo* and *Spirited Away*, tells the story of an airplane engineer in pre-World War II Japan in *The Wind Rises*, one of the lesser-known animated movies nominated for an Oscar.

While graphic novels are legitimate forms of grown-up entertainment, it's still fairly rare to see an animated movie meant primarily for adults (as with 2007's *Persepolis*). And with its ruminations on beauty and art versus moral responsibility, *The Wind Rises* is definitely meant for adults.

Jirô Horikoshi (voiced in the English-dubbed version by Joseph Gordon-Levitt) dreams of flight as a child and later goes to school to become an engineer of airplanes. As students in early 1920s Japan, Jirô and his friend and later colleague Honjô (John Krasinski) wish that the country would modernize, including the way it builds planes. As Jirô's career progresses and the 1920s turn into the 1930s, he does get a chance to build sleeker, more modern planes, but he knows that they are going to be used for war. It's a fact that has haunted him ever since he was a child and idolized Italian airplane designer Caproni (Stanley Tucci), who also built what Jirô thought were beautiful planes used in war.

Along the way, Jirô falls in love with Nahoko (Emily Blunt), a woman he meets first during an earthquake and again later on a vacation during a career low point.

The Wind Rises has an almost fairy tale quality. The fluid and watercolor-like animation; Jirô's dreams of Caproni and their conversations about creation, destruction, art, beauty, war; the ways in which the movie renders flight — it's all very soothing, very bedtime story. Though the movie is telling the story of a man who created World War II fighter planes, it keeps the war on the horizon. Though the movie — usually through the Caproni dreams — thinks over ideas about beauty versus war, Jirô himself is more concerned with getting his swooping bird-like planes to work. If you start to think too hard about the movie, the beauty of the story fades in the face of the reality of war. But reality has never been a big part of Miyazaki's movies and the movie keeps you from focusing on it too much (at least while you're watching it) by lulling you into some sort of gentle airplane fantasyland. In fact, the movie is probably a little too good at lulling — much like a kid on the receiving end of a bedtime story, I had to make a conscious effort not to fall asleep during all that contemplation of leaves and soft classical music.

The Wind Rises is a strange but pretty movie, one that mirrors the visual-intensive experience of reading a graphic novel. **B**

Rated PG-13 for some disturbing images and smoking. Directed by and screenplay by Hayao Miyazaki, The Wind Rises *is two hours and six minutes long and distributed by Touchstone Pictures.*

AMC Tyngsborough
440 Middlesex St., Tyngsborough, Mass., 978-649-3980.
Chunky's Cinema & Pub
151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, chunkys.com
Chunky's Cinema & Pub
150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499
Cinemagic Hooksett
1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 644-4629, cinemagicmovies.com
Cinemagic Merrimack 12
11 Executive Place Dr., Merrimack, 423-0240, cinemagicmovies.com
Flagship Cinemas Derry
10 Ashleigh Dr., Derry, 437-8800
AMC at The Loop
90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen, Mass., 978-738-8942
O'Neil Cinema 12
Apple Tree Mall, Londonderry, 434-8633
Regal Concord
282 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-3800
Regal Hooksett 8
100 Technology Drive, Hooksett
Showcase Cinemas Lowell
32 Reiss Ave., Lowell, Mass., 978-551-0055

MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

Film

RED RIVER THEATRES
11 S. Main St., Concord, redrivertheatres.org, 224-4600

• ***Her*** (R, 2013) Thurs., March 6, at 5 p.m.; Fri., March 7, at 5 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 1 p.m.; Sun., March 9, at 4 p.m.; Mon., March 10, at 5 p.m.; Tues., March 11, at 5 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 5 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 5 p.m.

• ***All is Lost*** (PG-13, 2013) Thurs., March 6, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Fri., March 7, at 1 & 5:45 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 5:30 p.m.; Mon., March 10, at 5:30 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 5:30 p.m.

• ***The Wind Rises*** (PG-13, 2013) Thurs., March 6, at 2:05, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; Fri., March 7, at 2 & 5 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 2 & 5 p.m.; Sun., March 9, at 1 & 3:45 p.m.; Mon., March 10, at 2:05 & 5:20 p.m.; Tues., March 11, at 2:05 & 5:20 p.m.; Wed. March 12, at 2:05 & 5:20 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 2:05 & 5:20 p.m.

• ***12 Years a Slave*** (R, 2013) on Fri., March 7, at 7:45 p.m; Sat., March 8, at 7:45 p.m.; Sun., March 9, at 6:30 p.m.; Mon., March 10, at 7:45 p.m.; Tues., March 11, at 7:45 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 7:45 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 7:45 p.m.

• ***American Hustle*** (R, 2013) on Fri., March 7, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.; Sat., March 8, at 4 p.m.; Sun., March 9, at 1 & 6:30 p.m.; Mon., March 10, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.; Tues., March 11, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 2 & 7:30 p.m.

• ***The Big Lebowski*** (R, 1998) on Sat., March 8 at 7 p.m.

• ***Lives of a Bengal Lancer*** (NR, 1935) on Sun., March 9, at 4 p.m.

• **Red River Theatres Community Cinema** free screening, active post-film panel discussion, *Medora* (documentary, 2013) on Tues., March 11, at 6:30 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL
40 Main St. in Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

• ***Gloria*** (PG, 1980) Thurs., March 6, at 7:30 p.m.

• ***12 Years a Slave*** (R, 2013) Fri., March 7, through Thurs., March 13, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening on Sun., March 9, at 2 p.m.

• ***Philomena*** (PG-13, 2013) Fri., March 7, through Thurs., March 13, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening on Sun., March 9, at 2 p.m.

• ***Forrest Gump*** (PG-13, 1994) on Sat., March 8, at 4:30 p.m.

• ***Wings*** (1927) benefit, with live music by Jeff Rapsis, Sun., March 9, at 4:30 p.m.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY
405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us

• ***Coal Miner's Daughter*** (PG, 1980) on Wed., March 12, at 1 p.m.

• ***Doc Hollywood*** (PG-13, 1991) on Wed., March 19, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY
76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us

• ***Gravity*** (PG-13, 2013) on Fri., March 7, at 3 p.m.

• ***Thor: The Dark World*** (PG-13, 2013) on Fri., March 14, at 3 p.m.

SNHU FILM SERIES
2500 N. River Road, Manchester

• ***Koyaanisquatsi*** (1982) on Wed., March 12, at 5:30 p.m.

NEW HAMPSHIRE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
31 College Drive, Concord, 271-6484, ext. 4115, Sweeney Auditorium

• ***Everyone's Going to Die*** new release from Manhattan Short Feature Film Project on Fri., March 7, at 7 p.m.

HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY
31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org, Free films and popcorn.

• ***Gravity*** (PG-13, 2013) on Wed., March 12, at 2 & 6 p.m.

CHUNKY'S CINEMA
151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, 880-8055

• **Cult Classics month** with *Pee Wee's Big Adventure* (PG, 1985) on Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m.; *The NeverEnding Story* (PG, 1984) on Thurs., March 20, at 7 p.m.; *The Big Lebowski* (R, 1998) on Thurs., March 27, at 7 p.m.

• **Senior Movie** series *The Quiet Man* (1952) on Wed., March 12, at noon;

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY
NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for a movie schedule. Seating is limited.

• ***All Is Lost*** (PG-13, 2013) on Thurs., March 6, at 7 p.m.

• ***James and the Giant Peach*** (PG, 1996) on Sat., March 8, at 2 p.m.

• ***Inside Llewyn Davis*** (R, 2013) on Tues., March 11, at 7 p.m.

• ***Darby O'Gill and the Little People*** (G, 1959) on Sat., March 15, at 2 p.m.

RODGERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
194 Derry Road, Route 102, Hudson, rodgerslibrary.org. 886-6030

• **Cinema Celebration** on Thurs., March 13, at 6:30 p.m.

POLLARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY
401 Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., 978-970-4120, pollardml.org

• **Independent Film Night** featuring *Aliyah* (NR, 2012) on Thurs., March 13, at 6:30 p.m.,

THE MUSIC HALL
28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org, Some films are screened at Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St.

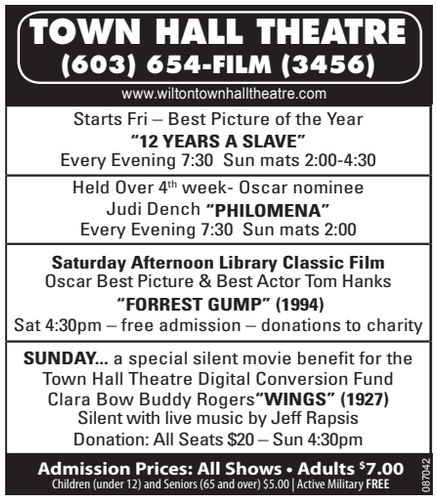
• ***Maidentrip*** (NR) on Thurs., March 6, at 7 p.m.

• ***Leviathan*** (NR, documentary) on Sat., March 8, at 7 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 7 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m.

• ***The Past*** (PG-13, 2013) on Tues., March 11, at 7 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 7 p.m.; & Thurs., March 13, at 7 p.m.

• ***The Rocket*** (NR, 2013) on Fri., March 14, at 7 p.m.; Sat., March 15, at 7 p.m.











THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Homecoming:** It's been a year since **Tom Dixon** left for Nashville, but he promised hometown fans the occasional New England return. An acoustic set in Weare is the first of two local shows — the second's a birthday bash for the country singer/guitarist Saturday night at City Sports Grille in Manchester. On the horizon is a Tom Dixon Band reunion in late June. See Tom Dixon on Thursday, March 6, at 9 p.m. at Boondocks Tavern, 487 S. Stark Highway, Weare. See tomdixonmusic.com.

• **Harmonica man:** Though he grew up in Boston, **Professor Harp** earned his nickname from the College of Musical Knowledge, Deep South chapter. His specialty is the raw, unfettered Texas blues harmonica, frequently fed through the same spinning Leslie speaker that gives a Hammond organ its big sound. For a Lakes Region show, the Howard Randall Band backs him. See Professor Harp on Friday, March 7, at 8 p.m. at Pitman's Freight Room, 94 New Salem St., Laconia. Tickets $12; see pitmansfreightroom.com.

• **Concordpalooza:** An acoustic set from **Lauren Hurley** will be the quietest moment during an all-day indoor festival featuring plenty of metalcore and hard rock. Bands include Promise Me Empires, Imagine The Escape, Rumors of Betrayal and Ana-Sapphira. For a taste of all the performers, check out this promotional video: bit.ly/1hFoo2n. Attend From Nothing To Something Entertainment Festival on Saturday, March 8, at 3 p.m. at Tandy's Top Shelf, 1 Eagle Square, Concord. Tickets $10; see on.fb.me/1dfIe3q.

• **Going green:** In a unique performance of dance, singing and spirited music, **Celtic Nights** presents *Emigrants Bridge*, drawing from Irish folklore and history to tell the story of "a constant journey of meeting, conversing and comparing, searching for a place better than Ireland or even half as good" — by ship, rail, horse and foot. See Celtic Nights on Sunday, March 9, at 7 p.m. at Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Tickets are $30 and $34 at rochesteroperahouse.com.

• **Rockumentary:** *As the Palaces Burn*, a film about the rock band **Lamb of God**, began as a study of music's impact around the world, but took an unforeseen turn when lead singer Randy Blythe was arrested in the Czech Republic for murdering a fan. The documentary covers Blythe's Kafkaesque legal journey and the band's return; it will screen only once in New Hampshire. See *As the Palaces Burn* on Tuesday, March 11, at 7 p.m. at Cinemagic Stadium Theatres, 1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett. Tickets are $13 at cinemagicmovies.com.

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NITE

Emerald pride

Pre-St. Patrick's Day show from Danú in Derry

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com



Danú

Danú is unabashedly of its country – don't call them Celtic. According to band co-founder Benny McCarthy, "The tunes I play are traditional Irish, not from 'Celtia.' … The term's just not specific enough for me. We are all born in Ireland and deeply rooted in where we come from."

The Celtic regions are spread across Europe, noted McCarthy. They draw from one another but aren't alike.

"I mention Brittany" — located on the northwest tip of France — "and people think we're talking about Britney Spears," laughed McCarthy. "But Breton music doesn't sound like Irish music, or Scottish music, or Manx music from the Isle of Man. … Don't put it in a box of Celtic."

McCarthy talked by phone as Danú prepared for a month-long U.S. tour that includes a Derry show on March 11. The band expects to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at every stop.

"Where better to work," he said. "For anyone playing this type of music, it's their biggest time of year for performing."

The American experience of the Irish religious holiday suits McCarthy fine.

"People go to mass in the morning, have a parade in the afternoon, there's music of course, and any day off in Ireland is a fun day," he said. "But when you go to the U.S. it takes on a different level of celebration. We live here and don't have to prove our heritage, but when you're abroad you can put on your green thing and show your Irish."

Danú is nearing its 20th anniversary as a band. It came together in October 1994, a night when McCarthy's button accordion and melodeon talents won him the All Ireland Oireachtas.

Danú

When: Tuesday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Stockbridge Theatre (Pinkerton Academy) 5 Pinkerton St., Derry
Tickets: $10-$30 at stockbridgetheatre.com

"We were playing for a céilidh [social dance] in one of the hotels in my hometown of Waterford," recalled McCarthy, and a loose jam session kept getting better. "The crowd got going a little bit wild at what we were doing, and the organizer of this big festival was in the audience. He just came up, said 'I would love to get you guys.'"

They played the first show at the 1995 Inter-Celtic Festival of Lorient, naming the band after "the Queen Goddess, top lady in Celtic mythology," said McCarthy.

Interestingly, the six-piece band was all male until 2003, when singer and flute player Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh replaced Ciarán Ó Gealbháin.

The change was less about altering the band's DNA than acknowledging Gealbháin's prodigious skills.

"He'd been crowned Irish singer of the year [and] it's one of the areas that can make or break a band. We were well aware of this," recalled McCarthy. "What guy is going to replace Ciarán and be told he's not as good as the last guy we had?"

Amhlaoibh transitioned easily in her role, as Gealbháin left to finish university.

"I wish I could say it was a rock and roll story that ended with a big fight, but it's not," McCarthy said with a chuckle. "In March 2003 we were in the studio with Muireann (pronounced MWI-ren). When the album came out in September, it was like she'd been there forever."

The record, *The Road Less Traveled*, was an immediate hit; a cover of Tommy Sands' elegiac "County Down" won a BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for Best Song in 2004. Another of the singer's gems is the Danú version of Paul Brady's "Follow On," from 2005's *When All Is Said and Done*.

"She's great — and she plays," McCarthy enthused. "It's very important that we had a singer who could sit in on some of the music as well. We said it could be a good change because she would not be compared to a male singer and … it was one of the best changeovers possible. She ticked all the boxes."

Sex Doll Tour

Sylvain, Matlock and rock's age of excess come to Shaskeen

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

The New York Dolls and Sex Pistols are two groups that disrupted and helped define late 20th-century rock 'n' roll — one at the dawn of the '70s, the other near its end. Both bands burned briefly, brightly and blew up spectacularly, leaving a rippling cultural wake equal to the music.

Sylvain Sylvain and Glen Matlock survived, and they'll be performing a show in Manchester soon. But until last year, Dolls guitarist Sylvain hadn't ever shared a stage with Matlock, the Pistols' bass player. The two bumped into each other a few times in the mid-70s, "in a 'we're both on the road' kind of way, but we never played together," Syl-

Sylvain Sylvain & Glen Matlock

When: Saturday, March 8, at 9 p.m.
Where: Shaskeen Pub, 909 Elm St., Manchester
Tickets: $20

vain said recently from his home in Atlanta.

When Tommy Ramone's health issues scrapped a tour with Matlock, the booking agent recruited Sylvain.

"I said, 'That would be totally tits,' as I like to say," he recalled, and fans quickly dubbed it the Sex Doll Tour. "People really dug it, and that's why we're doing it again."

The show at Manchester's Shaskeen Pub on Saturday, March 8, will include solo acoustic sets and a duet performance to close the evening.

"We'll play 'Personality Crisis' and maybe a couple of T-Rex songs," said Sylvain.

He'll also tell stories of his time in the Dolls, a band whose influence outstripped its records sales. It began almost as a lark, a way to get girls, said Sylvain.

"The reason we did it was because we were bored with what the norm was and we found out that it was our floor … we just became the darlings of that movement, then everybody else was bored and went, 'If these schmucks can do it, we can.'"

Malcolm McLaren, who later created the Sex Pistols, was an early fan. They met in 1971, when McLaren owned a London boutique and Sylvain ran a fashion company, Truth & Soul Sweaters, with fellow Doll Billy Murcia.

"It was at a trade show in this New York City hotel. … At the end of the hall was this sign that said 'Let It Rock' and this guy who looks like Jerry Lee Lewis with curly hair is trying to bring me in, saying 'Meet my wife'" — fashion designer and punk godmother Vivienne Westwood.

Sylvain invited the couple to see the Dolls perform that night.

"Malcolm fell in love with our band, maybe Vivienne even more," he recalled. "This was two to three years even before we made a record."

When the Dolls broke up in 1975, McLaren offered Sylvain a spot in the Sex Pistols.

"We traveled through the South and he'd tell me, 'All these kids hang out in front of the shop — I could put a band together for you.' I said 'OK, take my white Les Paul, sell it and send me back a plane ticket and I'll come over.' He would write me letters that are now in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame … 'Come to England, this is your band, Sylvan' — that is what he used to call me."

Along with the letters came photo booth pictures of John Lydon.

"He'd say, 'He can't sing, but we're gonna call him Johnny Rotten, and he can definitely sing better than David Johansen.'"

The plane ticket never came, and Sylvain formed a band called The Criminals, made a solo record and co-wrote much of Dolls front man Johansen's solo debut — standouts like "Funky But Chic," "Frenchette" and "Lonely Tenement." The two played and toured together, but a full New York Dolls reunion didn't happen until 2002, when Morrissey finally persuaded the surviving members to do it. They've made two new albums since, and Sylvain says this to anybody who asks: "I'm always a New York Doll."



Glen Matlock & Sylvain Sylvain live. Courtesy photo.

Night Life

Music, Comedy & Parties

• **IRISH BALLADEER** at Rye Public Library (581 Washington Rd., Rye 964-8401) on Fri., Mar. 7 at 2 p.m. Raised on Song and Story - a timely afternoon of Irish music and tale with Irish Balladeer Paul Carroll. The renowned Dublin minstrel will recall the lush green fields of Ireland to prepare us for Saint Patrick's Day.

• **MANDOLIN FESTIVAL** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord 228-1196) on Fri., Mar. 7 at 7 & 9 p.m. This three-day event offers group lessons and workshops on a variety of topics and jam sessions (all 50 workshop spots have been sold). This year's festival will feature nationally known musicians Joe Walsh, Marla Fibish, Eric McDonald and David Surette, with special guest Susie Burke.

• **CAFÉ 58 - SECOND WIND** at Claremont Opera House (Opera House Square, Claremont 542-4433) on Sat., Mar. 8 at 7 p.m. $10 - Complimentary coffee, tea and patries at this on stage event with music from duo playing favorite covers.

• **CORMAC MCCARTHY** at Simple Gifts Coffeehouse (UU Church 58 Lowell St, Nashua 886-2935) on Sat., Mar. 8 at 7:30 p.m. $18/door, $16/ adv. w/ $2 off for seniors and students, $10 for children 13 and younger.

• **PETER YARROW** at Peterborough Players Theater (55 Hadley Road, Peterborough

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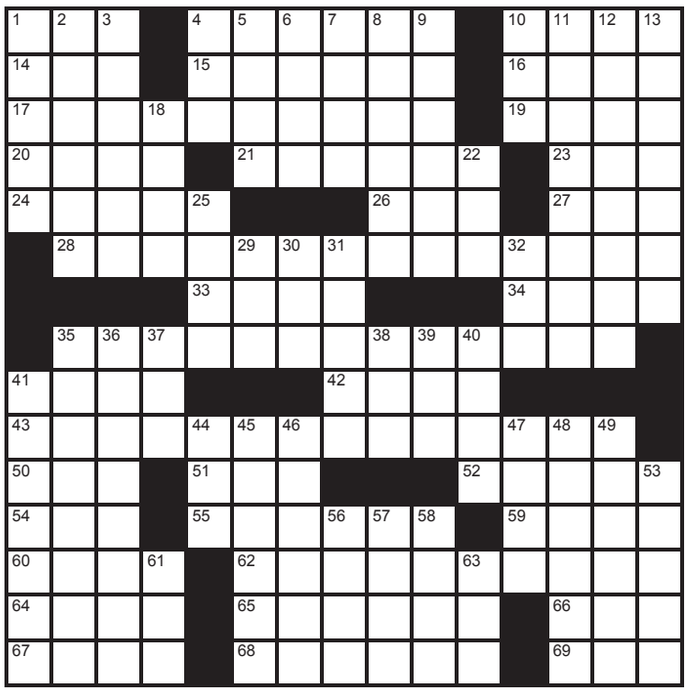
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Walking on broken puzzles

Across

1. Aussie band Midnight __
4. Some guitars are forgotten in them
10. They come in stacks
14. Ella Fitzgerald 'Ac-Cent-Tchu-__ The Positive'
15. John Lennon 'Power To The __'
16. Shawn Mullins gets down to his 'Soul's', on '98 album
17. Cult 'Brother Wolf, __ __' (6,4)
19. 'Ride A White Swan' band (1,3)
20. Howard Jones 'No One __ __ Blame' (2,2)
21. '95 Annie Lennox covers album that turned you to stone?
23. Giant UK record label
24. Peter Gabriel "Give me __!"
26. Pop rockers __ Amitri
27. Worn by big band member, perhaps
28. '07 Company Of Thieves 'Oscar Wilde' album (8,6)
33. 'Don't Expect Me To Be Your Friend' singer
34. 'LA Song (Out Of This Town)' Beth
35. "Good times never seemed so good" (5,8)
41. Shannon that sang backup on GnR's 'Don't Cry'
42. Ben Folds Five 'Battle Of Who Could __ Less'
43. Springsteen 'Meeting ___' (6,3,5)
50. It's 'White', to The Bronx
51. 'Be Strong Now' James
52. '09 Pearl Jam 'Backspacer' hit 'The __'
54. Honky Tonk Texan Joe
55. Elton John 'Ice On Fire' hit
59. '92 Annie Lennox solo album
60. Who Jim Croce told us not to mess with, besides Jim
62. What rapper did to enemy's lyrical diss
64. 'You're The Only One' Maria
65. Joan Jett did this with her 'Turnin'
66. The time of hair metal music, e.g
67. Aerosmith 'Living On The __'
68. Black Crowes 'Three ___ And One Charm'
69. 80s hit "Don't turn around uh-oh, __ Kommissar's in town uh-oh"

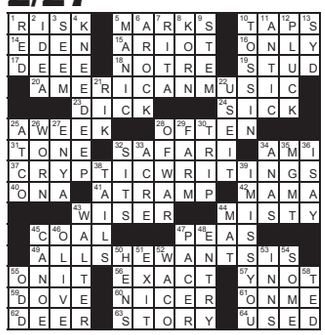


Down

1. 'Don't Look Back In Anger' band
2. Finch album/hit 'What ___ Burn' (2,2,2)
3. Harp player Lazy __
4. 'Statutory __' The Black Dahlia Murder
5. Cure 'A Short __ Effect'
6. Lionel Richie 'Do It __ __' (2,2)
7. Apple product that changed music
8. Like poor fest conditions
9. Political rap-rock UK band
10. Warm-up __
11. Leo Sayer '__ __ I Can Say' (4,4)
12. MTV world __ video
13. Adam Levine: '13 __ Man Alive
18. __ The Wet Sprocket
22. Soundtrack for Will Smith boxing movie
25. Eminem movie '8 __'
29. Gloria Estefan 'I'm __ Giving You Up'
30. Jackson 5 smash
31. 'Lovehatetragedy' Papa __
32. 70s soul band __-Lites
35. God Lives Underwater 'Life In The __ Space Age' (hyph)
36. Fretting over venue parking
37. 'Apollo: Atmospheres & Soundtracks' Brian
38. Corinne Bailey __
39. Cars bassist Benjamin
40. Problem-plagued teen idol Garrett
41. Puddle Of Mudd 'She __ __' (5,2)
44. Deer Tick 'Art Isn't Real (City Of __)'
45. They are sold at show
46. A-ha '__ __ Me' (4,2)
47. Ricky Martin 'Livin La __ Loca'
48. Left the show
49. Licensed To Ill song 'Paul ___'
53. Britney Spears song about a cop's speeding gun?
56. Bonnie Tyler '__ __ Heartache' (3,1)
57. What new member has to be up to
58. Senses Fail 'Buried __ __' (1,3)
61. Legendary 'Great Balls Of Fire' West
63. Manager should know the __ & outs

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2/27







Live music at local bars and restaurants

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Amherst
La Belle Winery
345 Route 101 672-9898

Auburn
Auburn Pitts
167 Rockingham Rd 622-6564

Barrington
Chip 'N Run Pub
550 Province Rd 664-2030

Bedford
Bedford Village Inn
2 Olde Bedford Way 472-2001
Copper Door
15 Leavy Drive 488-2677
Shorty's
206 Route 101 488-5706
Starbucks
220 S. River Rd 263-0061

Belmont
El Jimador
171 DW Highway 527-8122
Lakes Region Casino
1265 Laconia Rd. 267-7778
Lodge at Belmont
Route 106 877-872-2501
Top of the Town
88 Ladd Hill Rd 528-3244

Boscawen
Alan's
133 N. Main St. 753-6631

Bow
Chen Yang Li
520 South St. 228-8508

Bradford
Appleseed Restaurant
63 High St., 938-2100

Bristol
Back Room at Mill
2 Central St. 744-0405

Brookline
Cozy Tea Cart
104 Route 13 249-9111
Mad Hatter Bar & Grill
99 Route 13 672-1800

Concord
Barley House
132 N. Main, 228-6363
Granite Restaurant & Bar
96 Pleasant St. 227-9000
Hermanos
11 Hills Ave. 224-5669
Makris
354 Sheep Davis Rd 225-7665
Penuche's Ale House
6 Pleasant St. 228-9833
Pit Road Lounge
388 Loudon Rd 226-0533
Red Blazer
72 Manchester St. 224-4101
Tandy's Top Shelf
1 Eagle Square 856-7614
True Brew Barista
3 Bicentennial Square 225-2776

Contoocook
Contoocook Covered Bridge
Cedar St. 746-5191

Deerfield
Lazy Lion Café
4 North Road 463-7374

Derry
Coffee Factory
55 Crystal Ave 432-6006
Halligan Tavern
32 W. Broadway 965-3490
Sabatino's North
1 E. Broadway 432-7999
Steve-N-James Tavern
187 Rockingham Rd 434-0600

Dover
11th Frame Bar
887 B Central Ave. 742-9632
Asia
42 Third Street 742-9816
Barley Pub
328 Central Ave. 742-4226
Cara Irish Pub
11 Fourth St. 343-4390
Cartelli's
446 Central Ave. 750-4002
Dover Brick House
2 Orchard St. 749-3838
Fury's Publick House
1 Washington St 617-3633
Jimmy's Sports Bar
15 Mechanic St. 740-4477
Kelley's Row
421 Central Ave. 750-7081
Loft at Strafford Farms
58 Route 108 743-3045
RJ's
83 Washington St.
Roger's Pizza
869 Central Ave. 742-9870
Sonny's Tavern
328 Central Ave 343-4332
Top of the Chop
One Orchard St. 740-0006

Epping
Holy Grail
64 Main St. 679-9559

Epsom
Circle 9 Ranch
39 Windymere Dr. 736-9656

Exeter
Shooter's Pub
10 Columbus Ave. 772-3856

Gilford
Ellacoya Barn & Grille
2667 Lakeshore Rd 293-8700
Patrick's
18 Weirs Rd. 293-0841

Goffstown
Village Trestle
25 Main St. 497-8230
Wa Toy
611 Mast Rd 668-1088

Hampstead
Pasta Loft Brickhouse
220 East Main St 378-0092
Village Square
472 State St. 329-6879

Hampton
Boardwalk Inn
139 Ocean Blvd. 929-7400
Breakers By the Sea
409 Ocean Blvd 926-7702
La Bec Rouge
73 Ocean Blvd 926-5050
Old Salt
409 Lafayette Rd 926-8322
Ron's Landing
379 Ocean Blvd 929-2122
Wally's Pub
144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954
Whales Tales
169 Ocean Blvd 967-4771

Hanover
Jesse's Tavern
224 Lebanon St 643-4111
Salt Hill Pub Hanover
7 Lebanon Street 676-7855

Henniker
Country Spirit
262 Maple Street 428-7007
Daniel's
Main St. 428-7621
Henniker Junction
24 Weare Rd. 428-8511
Pat's Peak Sled Pub
24 Flander's Road 888-728-7732

Hollis
Alpine Grove
19 S. Depot Road 882-9051

Hooksett
Asian Breeze
1328 Hooksett Rd 621-9298
New England's Tap House Grille
1292 Hooksett Rd. 782-5137
Pizza Man
River Road

Hudson
AJ's Sports Bar & Grill
11 Tracy Lane 718-1102
JD Chaser's
2B Burnham Rd 886-0792
Nan King Restaurant & Lounge
222 Central St. 882-1911
SoHo
49 Lowell Rd. 889-6889

Kingston
Bucco's Tavern
143 Main St. 642-4999
Kingston 1686 House Tavern
127 Main St. 642-3637

Laconia
Anthony's Pier
263 Lakeside Ave. 366-5855
Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro
89 Lake St. 524-0008
Broken Spoke Saloon
1072 Watson Rd 866-754-2526
Cactus Jack's
1182 Union Ave. 528-7800
Crazy Gringo
306 Lakeside Ave. 366-4411
Fratello's Lakes
799 Union Ave. 528-2022
Jazz Bar
290 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100
Margate Resort
76 Lake St. 524-5210
Naswa Resort
1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341
Paradise Beach Club
322 Lakeside Ave. 366-2665
Patio Garden
Lakeside Ave.
Pitman's Freight Room
94 New Salem St. 527-0043
Tower Hill Tavern
264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100
Lobster Pound
72 Endicott St. 366-2255
Weirs Beach Smokehouse
Rt 3 Laconia 366-2400

Londonderry
Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern
176 Mammoth Rd 437-2022
Stumble Inn Bar & Grill
20 Rockingham Road 432-3210
Twins Smoke Shop
128 Rockingham Rd
Whippersnappers
44 Nashua Rd No. 13 434-2660

Loudon
Hungry Buffalo
58 Route 129, 798-3737

Manchester
Breezeway Pub
14 Pearl St. 621-9111
British Beer Company
1071 S. Willow St. 232-0677
City Sports Grille
216 Maple St. 625-9656
CK's Grill
791 Second St 669-2868
Club 313
93 S. Maple St. 628-6813
Derryfield Country Club
625 Mammoth Road 623-2880
Don Quijote
333 Valley St. 792-1110
Drynk
20 Old Granite St. 641-2583
Element Lounge
1055 Elm St. 627-2922
Farm Bar & Grille
1181 Elm St. 641-3276
Fratello's
155 Dow Street 624-2022
Gaucho's Churrascaria
62 Lowell St. 669-9460
Hanover St. Chophouse
149 Hanover Street 644-2467
Ignite Bar & Grille
100 Hanover St. 494-6225
J. Dubs Coffee
1000 Elm St. 622-7944
Jade Dragon MHT
1087 Elm St. 669-5523
Jam Factory
1211 Elm St. 203-1458
Jokers
1279 South Willow Street 935-9947
Karma Hookah & Cigar Bar
1077 Elm St. 647-6653
Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille
712 Valley 622-1021
Mad Bob's Saloon
342 Lincoln St. 669-3049
McGarvey's
1097 Elm St. 627-2721
Midnight Rodeo (Yard)
1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545
Milly's Tavern
500 Commercial St. 625-4444
Murphy's Taproom
494 Elm St. 644-3535
N'awlins Grille
860 Elm St. 606-2488
Olympic Lounge
506 Valley St. 644-5559
Penuche's on Hanover
96 Hanover St. 626-9830
Piccola's
815 Elm St. 296-4070
Raxx Lounge
1195 Elm St. 203-1458
Salona Bar & Grill
128 Maple St. 624-4020
Shaskeen
909 Elm St. 625-0246
Shorty's
1050 Bicentennial Dr. 625-1730
Sizzle Bistro
1 Highlander Way 232-3344
Social 24
24 Depot St. 782-8489
Starbucks
1111 South Willow St 641-4839
Strange Brew Tavern
88 Market St. 666-4292
Theos
102 Elm St. 669-4678
TJ's Bar & Grill
23 Central St. 660-2241
Unwine'd
865 Second St. 625-9463
Wild Rover
21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722
XO on Elm
827 Elm St. 206-5721

Meredith
Camp
300 Daniel Webster Highway 279-3003
Giuseppe's Ristorante
312 Daniel Webster Hwy 279-3313

Merrimack
Giorgio's Ristorante & Martini Bar
707 Milford Road 883-7333
Homestead
641 Daniel Webster Highway 429-2022
Jade Dragon
515 DW Highway 424-2280

Thursday, March 6

Amherst
La Belle Winery: Chris Lester

Auburn
Auburn Pitts: Rockin' Ronnie Adams

Boscawen
Alan's: John Pratt in Lounge

Concord
Granite: CJ Poole & The Sophisticated Approach
Hermanos: Gerry Beaudoin

Dover
Brickhouse: Eyenine; Ill by INstinct; Policewomanwithfangs; Radiant Flow Control
Cara: Bluegrass w/ Steve Roy

Epping
Holy Grail: Live Music

Gilford
Patrick's: Paul Warnick

Hooksett
Pasta Loft: Open Mic w/Ryan & Brad

Laconia
Paradise Beach Club: DJ Gin-E
Pitman's Freight Room: Tyler Road

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Kim Riley
Whippersnappers: Live Music

Manchester
Breezeway: DJ Pet-Resurrection
Club 313: DJ Pez & DJ Carlos
Drynk: Co-Ed Thursdays with DJ Shawn Danjah White & Friends
Karma: DJ Midas w/Reed on drums
Milly's: Lakes Region Big Band
N'awlins Grille: John Chouinard
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shorty's: Brandon Lepere
Strange Brew: Matthew Stubbs

Merrimack
Homestead: Steve Tolley

Nashua
Boston Billiard Club: DJ & Beach Night
Shorty's: Chad Lamarsh

Newmarket
Stone Church: Live Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki

Plaistow
Racks Bar & Grill: Blues Jam w/ Steve Devine

Portsmouth
British Beer Company: Jackson Wetherbee
Dolphin Striker: Family Affair
Fat Belly's: DJ PB Kidd
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Annalivia
Red Door: Vesper Chimes/ Lichen/Seth Gooby/Family Planning
Rudi's: Sal Hughes & Jim Clark
Thirsty Moose: Shardz

Weare
Boondocks: Tom Dixon

Friday, March 7

Bedford
Shorty's: Kieran McNally

Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: DJ Cliff Hounsell

Boscawen
Alan's: Live Music

Concord
Makris: Sum Times 4
Red Blazer: Alternate Tunings
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: Rachel Vogelzang and Brad Myrick

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brickhouse: Rustic Overtones; String Theory
Fury's: Mother Superior
Kelley's Row: Living The Dream

Epping
Holy Grail: Live Music

Gilford
Patrick's: MB Padfield

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Acoustic Jam w/ John Erlman

Hampstead
Pasta Loft Brickhouse: Live Music

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356 Daniel Webster Highway 424-6320

Milford
Chapanga's
168 Elm St. 249-5214
Clark's Tavern
40 Nashua St. 769-3119
Giorgio's Ristorante & Meze Bar
524 Nashua St. 673-3939
J's Tavern
63 Union Sq. 249-9222
Madison's Irish Pub
586 Nashua St. 672-2060
Pasta Loft
241 Union Sq. 672-2270
Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills
50 Emerson Road 673-7123

Nashua
603 Lounge
14 W. Hollis St. 821-5260
Amsterdam
8 Temple St. 204-5534
Arena Sportsbar & Nightclub
53 High St. 881-9060
Bernie's
522 Amherst St. 978-884-9536
Boston Billiard Club
55 Northeastern Blvd. 943-5630
Country Tavern
452 Amherst St. 889-5871
Cucina Toscana
427 Amherst St 821-7356
Fat Daddy's Café
650 Amherst St. 821-5136
Fody's Tavern
9 Clinton St. 577-9015
Haluwa Lounge
Nashua Mall 883-6662
Killarney's Irish Pub
9 Northeastern Blvd. 888-1551
Martha's Exchange
185 Main St. 883-8781
Michael Timothy's
212 Main St. 595-9334
Nashua Garden
121 Main St. 886-7363
O'Shea's Tavern & Cigar Bar
449 Amherst St. 943-7089
Peddler's Daughter
48 Main St. 821-7535
Pine Street Eatery
136 Pine St. 886-3501
Riverwalk Coffee
35 Railroad Sq. 578-0200
Slade's Food & Spirits
4 W. Hollis St. 886-1344
Stella Blu
70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557
Shorty's
48 Gusabel Ave 882-4070
Unums
47 E. Pearl St. 821-6500
Villa Banca
194 Main St. 598-0500
Wicked Twisted
38 East Hollis St. 577-1718

New Boston
Molly's Tavern
35 Mont Vernon Rd 487-2011

New London
Flying Goose
40 Andover Road 526-6899

Newington
Momma D's Casa di Pasta
347 Shattuck Way 431-6511

Newmarket
KJ's Sports Bar
N. Main St. 659-2329
Lamprey River Tavern
110 Main St. 659-3696
Stone Church
5 Granite St. 292-3546

Newport
Salt Hill Pub Newport
58 Main St. 863-7774

Newton
Hen House
85 South Main St 382-1705

North Hampton
Locals 215 Lafayette Rd. 379-2729

Northwood
Tough Tymes 221 Rochester Rd 942-5555

Pelham
Shooters
116 Bridge St. 635-3577

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub
3 School St. 924-6365

Plaistow
Corner Pocket
181 Plaistow Rd. 382-3130
Dugout Grille
93 Main St. 819-4947
Racks Bar & Grill
20 Plaistow Rd. 974-2406
Sad Café
148 Plaistow Rd. 382-8893

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid Island Grill
The hill at Hanover and High streets 427-2583
British Beer Company
103 Hanover St. 501-0515
Daniel Street Tavern
111 Daniel St. 430-1011
Dolphin Striker
15 Bow St. 431-5222
Fat Belly's
2 Bow St. 610-4227
Hilton Garden Inn
100 High St. 431-1499
Jitto's Supersteak
3131 Lafayette Rd 436-9755
MoJo's BBQ Grill
95 Brewery Lane 436-6656
Oar House
50 Ceres St. 436-4025
Paddy's American Grill
27 International Dr. 430-9450
Portsmouth Gas Light
64 Market St. 431-9122
Portsmouth Pearl
45 Pearl St. 431-0148
Press Room
77 Daniel St. 431-5186
Red Door
107 State St. 373-6827
Red Hook Brewery
35 Corporate Dr. 430-8600
Ri Ra Irish Pub
22 Market Sq. 319-1680
Rudi's
20 High St. 430-7834
Rusty Hammer
49 Pleasant St. 436-9289
Thirsty Moose
21 Congress St. 427-8645
Wet Bar at Pages
172 Hanover St. 436-0004

Raymond
Famous Legends
4 Essex Dr. 895-4474

Salem
Black Water Grill
43 Pelham Road 328-9013
Coffee Coffee
326 S. Broadway 912-5381
Jocelyn's Lounge
355 S. Broadway 870-0045
JT's Bar and Grill
326 S. Broadway 893-4055
Sayde's Restaurant
136 Cluff Crossing 890-1032
Varsity Club
67 Main St. 898-4344

Seabrook
Chop Shop Pub
920 Lafayette Rd 760-7704
Honey Pot Bar & Lounge
920 Lafayette Road 760-2013
Master McGrath's
Route 107 474-6540
Prime Time Sports Grill
620 Lafayette Rd 760-7230

Sunapee
One Mile West Tavern
6 Brook Road 863-7500
Sunapee Coffee House
Rte. 11 & Lower Main St. 229-1859

Tilton
Black Swan Inn
354 W. Main St. 286-4524

Weare
Boondocks Tavern & Country Grille
487 South Stark Highway 529-7747

Windham
Common Man
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Village Square: Live Music

Hampton
Wally's: Whiskey Wild

Henniker
Sled Pub: Dusty Gray (Almost Acoustic)

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: DJ Alban

Laconia
Pitman's: Professor Harp Blues Band

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Joe McDonald
Whippersnappers: Live Music

Manchester
Breezeway Pub: DJ Mckay NRG Dance
British Beer Co.: Cover Story
Club 313: DJ Bob
Derryfield: Nimbus 9
Element: Friday Night Dance Party w/DJ Smallz
Fratello's: Live Music
Jade Dragon: Project Mess
Manchvegas: Big Country Party
Milly's: Nothingon
Murphy's: Conniption Fits
N'awlins: Rob Wolfe Trio
Penuche's: Chromatropic w/ Strange Machines
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: The Stink
Strange Brew: 2020 S. Michigan
TJ's: DJ SP1 w/ Guests (MF Fridays)

Merrimack
Homestead: Dustin Ladale
Jade Dragon: Father Groove
Pacific Fusion: The Voice

Nashua
Amsterdam: Stolen Luck
Arena: Live Music / DJ Danjah



COMIC EXCHANGE

The battle of the sexes gets a comedic twist as Jim Lauletta and Christine Hurley trade jabs in a That's What He Said, That's What She Said performance at Old Salt (490 Lafayette Rd., Hampton 926-8322). Lauletta is a regular in Las Vegas and Atlantic City and has been seen on Comedy Central, HBO, Showtime, and more. Hurley tours nationally and was named Nick and Night's Funniest Mom. For years, she entertained family, friends and neighbors in their kitchens, at barbecues and the grocery store aisles. Now, she uses a microphone and a stage. Tickets are $15.

Country Tavern: Olde Salt
Fody's: Live Music
Killarney's: Live Music
Peddler's Daughter: Live Music
Stella Blu: Rampage Trio

New Boston
Molly's: Tavern: Tom Rouseau / Restaurant: Pete Smith

Newmarket
Stone Church: March Mandolin Madness; Santa Mamba

Peterborough
Harlow's: Blind Owl

Plaistow
Racks Bar & Grill: Live Music

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Live Entertainment
British Beer Co: DJ Jonny Friday
Dolphin Striker: Los Sugar Kings
Fat Belly's: DJ PB Kidd
Gas Light: Nightclub: DJ KoKo P; Grill: Keith Henderson; Pub: Scott McRae
Oar House: Bob Arens
Press Room: White Hinterland w/ Forget, Forget
Red Door: Lord Bass
Rudi's: PJ Donahue
Rusty Hammer: Paul Luff
Thirsty Moose: Pop Disaster

Salem
Black Water: Rick Breton & Crew

Sunapee
Sunapee Coffee House: Justin Carloni & Jane Fallon

Saturday, March 8

Bedford
Shorty's: Sonic Boomers

Belmont
LR Casino: DJ Christine

Boscawen
Alan's: Live Music

Concord
Hermanos: Matt Poirier
Tandy's: Nothing to Something Entertainment Festival
True Brew: Four Legged Faithful

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brickhouse: Bluebirds; Waylon Speed
Fury's: Sunset Fire
Kelley's Row: Pat Foley
Sonny's: Martin England, Jesse + Courtney

Epping
Holy Grail: Live Music

Gilford
Patrick's: Rob & Jody

Hampstead
Pasta Loft: Live Music
Village Square: Local Live Music

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Old Bastards

Henniker
Sled Pub: Jah Spirit Reggae Band

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: George Belli & the Retroactivists
Pasta Loft: Jim Guimond
Tap House: Brickyard Blues

Laconia
Baja Beach Club: DJ
Pitman's Freight Room: Dance Night w/the Carolyn Ramsay Band

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Steve Tolley

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Live Music

Manchester
British Beer Company: Outburst
City Sports Grille: Tom Dixon
Club 313: Life's A Drag Hosted by Monique
Derryfield: Those Guys
Element: Dance Party with DJ Smallz
Fratello's: Live Music
Jade Dragon: Wildside
Manchvegas: Live Rock Music
Midnight Rodeo: Dan Morgan Band
Milly's: Casual 6
Murphy's Taproom: Mugsy
N'awlins Grille: Queen City Soul
Penuche's: Live Music
Raxx: DJ Mike
Salona: Groove Cats
Shaskeen: Glen Matlock & Sylvain Sylvain
Strange Brew: Amorphous
Wild Rover: Live Music

Merrimack
Homestead: Lachlan Maclearn
Jade Dragon: DJ Laura

Milford
Clark's: Karen Grenier
J's Tavern: Live Music

Nashua
Amsterdam: Nicole Knox Murphy
Boston Billiard Club: DJ Anthem Throwback
Country Tavern: Joe McDonald
Fody's: Jive Kats
Killarney's: Brian House
Peddler's Daughter: Live Music
Stella Blu: Gary Lopez

New Boston
Molly's: Tavern: Wooden Souls / Restaurant: Cody & Co.

Newmarket
Stone Church: The Phreaks

Plaistow
Racks Bar & Grill: Live Music
Sad Cafe: Scotty Saints, Pity Whores

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Live Entertainment

GET THE CROWDS AT YOUR GIG

Want to get your show listed in the Music This Week? Let us know all about your upcoming show, comedy show, open mike night or multi-band event by sending all the information to **music@hippopress.com**. Send information by 9 a.m. on Friday to have the event considered for the next Thursday's paper.

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NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org
Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., www.lowellsummermusic.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Road, Francestown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittemore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, whittcenter.com

• **Teitur/Pat & The Hats** Thu., Mar. 6 at 7:30, Cap Center
• **Justin Moore w/ Randy Houser** Thu., Mar. 6 at 7, Tsongas Center
• **Open Mic Night Featuring Davey O** Thu., Mar. 6 at 8, Tupelo
• **The Spirit of Mardi Gras with Slippery Sneakers Zydeco Band** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7, Cap Center
• **Alan Kelly Gang & The Karan Casey Band** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7:30, Dana Center
• **Los Lobos** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **Portsmouth Music and Arts Center's Seventh Annual Jazz Night** Fri., Mar. 7 at 8, Music Hall
• **John Ford Coley** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7, Palace Theatre
• **Comedy with Frank Santorelli and Mitch Stinson** Fri., Mar. 7 at 8, Tupelo
• **The Machine** Sat., Mar. 8 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **Annalivia** Sat., Mar. 8 at 7, Franklin Opera House
• **Francis Dunnery Electric Band** Sat., Mar. 8 at 8, Tupelo
• **Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald** Sun., Mar. 9 at 4, Cap Center
• **Tony Bennett (Sold Out)** Sun., Mar. 9 at 8, Music Hall
• **Celtic Nights** Sun., Mar. 9 at 7, Rochester Opera House
• **Anna Nalick** Sun., Mar. 9 at 8, Tupelo
• **Danu** Tue., Mar. 11 at 7, Stockbridge Theatre
• **Makem and Spain Brothers** Thu., Mar. 13 at 8, Tupelo
• **The Straits** Fri., Mar. 14 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **Lenny Clarke & His Cast of Characters** Fri., Mar. 14 at 7, Palace Theatre
• **Paula Poundstone** Sat., Mar. 15 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **Frank Santos (R-Rated Hypnotist)** Sat., Mar. 15 at 7, Palace Theatre
• **Jefferson Starship 40th Anniversary Tour** Sat., Mar. 15 at 8, Tupelo
• **Chris Botti** Sun., Mar. 16 at 8, Music Hall
• **Royal Southern Brotherhood** Sun., Mar. 16 at 8, Tupelo
• **Rock of Ages** Tue., Mar. 18 at 7:30, Cap Center
• **Keb' Mo'** Wed., Mar. 19 at 7:30, Lebanon Opera House
• **Robert Cray** Thu., Mar. 20 at 7, Cap Center
• **Rick Springfield** Thu., Mar. 20 at 8, Colonial Theatre
• **Irish Rovers Farewell Tour** Fri., Mar. 21 at 7:30, Cap Center
• **Robert Randolph & The Family Band** Fri., Mar. 21 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **John Eddie** Fri., Mar. 21 at 8, Tupelo
• **Harvey Robbins presents: Royalty of Rock 'n' Roll** Sat., Mar. 22 at 8, Colonial Theatre
• **Paul Barrere & Fred Tackett (Little Feat Acoustic Duo)** Sat., Mar. 22 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **Kobo Town** Sat., Mar. 22 at 8, Music Hall
• **Ed Kowalczyk (Live)** Sat., Mar. 22 at 8, Tupelo
• **Nick Chandler & Delivered Bluegrass** Sun., Mar. 23 at 2, Lebanon Opera House
• **Nick Chandler and Delivered** Sun., Mar. 23 at 2, Lebanon Opera House
• **Enter the Haggis** Sun., Mar. 23 at 8, Tupelo
• **Craig Ferguson** Mon., Mar. 24 at 7, Cap Center
• **Piano Guys** Mon., Mar. 24 at 8, Music Hall
• **John Prine** Wed., Mar. 26 at 8, Cap Center
• **Experience Hendrix** Thu., Mar. 27 at 8, Casino Ballroom
• **Peter Wolf** Thu., Mar. 27 at 8, Tupelo
• **Rock N Blues Guitar Summit** Fri., Mar. 28 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
• **Josh Ritter** Fri., Mar. 28 at 8, Music Hall
• **Steep Canyon Rangers & Della Mae** Fri., Mar. 28 at 8, Silver Center

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

British Beer Co: Tim Theriault Band
Dolphin Striker: Sharon Jones Band
Fat Belly's: DJ Provo
Gas Light: Nightclub: DJ KoKo P; Grill: Drew Yount; Pub: Tony Santesse
Hilton Garden: Rick Watson
Oar House: Don Severance
Press Room: Party Gras with Truffle & Hot Tamale Brass
Red Door: Ryan Obermiller
Rudi's: Mike Effenberger & Rob Gerry
Thirsty Moose: Stop Tito w/ Blacklight Ruckus

Salem
Black Water Grill: Live Music

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Tigerlily

Weare
Boondocks: The Malcolm Experience

Sunday, March 9
Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo

Dover
Brickhouse: Live Jazz Brunch with Jim Dozet Trio
Cara: Irish Session w/ Carol Coronis & Ramona Connelly
Sonny's: Sonny's Jazz Series - Taylor O'Donnell

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: MaryBeth Maes Band

Manchester
British Beer Co.: Bloody Blues Brunch w/ Alli Beaudry Trio
Milly's: DJ
Shaskeen: Rap night, Industry night
Social 24: Sunday Funday Winter Jam Sessions
Strange Brew: I Need More Sleep Band

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Portsmouth
British Beer Co.: Bloody Blues Brunch w/ Matt Stubbs Band
Dolphin Striker: Kate Redgate
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Marissa Nadler
Red Door: Green Lion Crew
Rudi's: Jazz Brunch w/ Nate Therrin & Bryan Killough

Monday, March 10
Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo

Manchester
Fratello's: Rob Wolfe
Milly's: DJ

Merrimack
Homestead: Doug Thompson

Newmarket
Stone Church: Sinful Blues - Open Blues Jam

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Oldschool
Red Door: Narrow/Arrow, Vasudeva, The Sea The Sea
Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, March 11
Brookline
Mad Hatter: Rock Snowmen

Concord
Barley House: Irish Sessions
Hermanos: Dan Walker

Dover
Fury's: Tim Theriault and Friends
Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester
Fratello's: Live Music
Milly's: Live Music
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Live Music
Strange Brew: Peter Parcek

Merrimack
Homestead: Paul Luff

Newmarket
Stone Church: Bluegrass Jam w/ Dave Talmage

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Honky Tonk Tuesdays
Dolphin Striker: Acheson Gown
Press Room: Larry Garland Jazz Jam

Wednesday, March 12
Auburn
Auburn Pitts: Ladies Night w/ DJ Chris

Concord
Hermanos: Paul Heckel

Dover
Fury's: Harsh Armadillo
Sonny's: B.A. Canning

Gilford
Patrick's: Justin Jaymes

Manchester
Crazy Camel: Jonny Friday
Fratello's: Live Music
Milly's: DJ
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz
Strange Brew: Howard Randall

Merrimack
Homestead: Brian Gray
Pacific Fusion: Joe McDonald

Nashua
Amsterdam: Chips N Dip
Killarney's: Kieran McNally

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Mica/Sev Project
Fat Belly's: B-Cap
Portsmouth Book & Bar: The Henry Girls, Ry Cavanaugh
Red Door: Red On Red w/ Evaredy (Ladies Night)
Ri Ra: Great Bay Sailor
Rudi's: Solo Dimitri on Piano
Thirsty Moose: Toy Soldiers w/ Forts/Gainesville & These Wild Plains

Weare
Boondocks: Blues Jam w/ Paul Spera, Junie Belanger & Mickey McGuire



BIG EASY TIME

For its last area appearance before a Virgin Islands tour, Truffle goes bigger and brassier Saturday, March 8, at the Press Room (77 Daniel St., Portsmouth 431-5186). It's a Mardi Gras Party Gras with members of the Hot Tamale Brass Band joining in. They last played together at last year's Halloween show with Little Feat's Bill Payne. This event features costumes, beads, food and drink specials, along with plenty of bon temps rouler fun, even if Fat Tuesday is a few days past (the denizens on Bourbon Street don't know or care).

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, March 6
Derry
Halligan Tavern: Matt Kona/Thom Crowley

Hampton
Old Salt: Jim Lauletta/ Christine Hurley

Nashua
Fody's: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, March 7
Londonderry
Tupelo: Frank Santorelli and Mitch Stinson

Saturday, March 8
Keene
Colonial Theatre: Dueling Pianos

Manchester
Headliners: Ira Proctor

Raymond
Veronica Laffs: Ryan Gartley

Wed., March 12
Manchester
Murphy's: Laugh Free or Die
Shaskeen: Aaron Burzack/James Mullan

Thurs., March 13
Derry
Halligan: Tim McIntyre, Adam Langlois

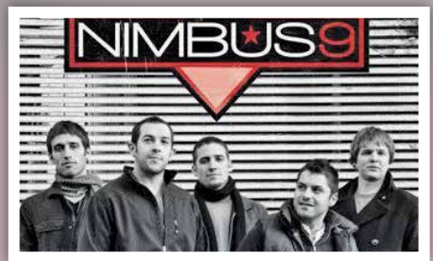
Nashua
Fody's: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, Mar. 14
Manchester
Headliners: Mich Fatel
Palace: Lenny Clarke & His Cast of Characters

Newmarket
Stone Church: Pat Janssen/Doug Blay

THE DERRYFIELD

MAR 7TH & 8TH
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NIMBUS 9



SAT. MAR. 8TH
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$18
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ANNA NALICK



Sun., March 9
7:00 p.m.
$25
RS-Theater

THE MAKEM & SPAIN BROTHERS



Thurs., March 13
8:00 p.m.
$25
RS-Theater

JOHN EDDIE



Fri., March 21
8:00 p.m.
$25
GA

ENTER THE HAGGIS



Sun., March 23
7:00 p.m. • $22 • RS-Theater

ROOMFUL OF BLUES



Fri., April 4
8:00 p.m. • $25 • RS-Theater

WILLY PORTER



Sat., April 5
8:00 p.m.
$25
RS-Theater

Y&T



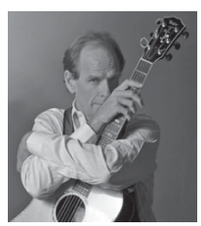
Mon., April 7
8:00 p.m.
$35/$40
RS-Theater

THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS



Tues., April 8
8:00 p.m.
$55/$60
RS-Theater

LIVINGSTON TAYLOR



Fri., April 11
8:00 p.m.
$35
RS-Theater

NIGHT OF COMEDY
Featuring Graig Murphy and Mike Prior



Sat., April 12
8:00 p.m.
$18
RS-Tables

PIERRE BENSUSAN



Sun., April 13
7:00 p.m.
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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from the Skipper of *Gilligan's Island*, played by Alan Hale Jr., born March 8, 1921.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *How they bitin', little buddy? ... Mine must weigh 50 pounds! ... Gilligan, you're fouling my line, now get it loose! ... Get my foot out of this bucket. Whose side are you on, the fish's?* If your line's being fouled, don't take it personally. Strengthen a friendship by working together.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *Say, you know, those natives took it better than I thought they would. ... They've got poisonous blow guns! ... Well, I'm all for jumping 'em. There's only three of them and four of us.* Don't be too hasty to jump into anything.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *Oh, no, wait a minute, king. Look, we don't like your rules, so the game is over.* Learn the rules in advance.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Girls, Mr. and Mrs. Howell, we've got to do something and do it quick! ... It's the king. He's getting fresh with Gilligan. ... If he finds out that he's not a girl, the wedding's off, the trip to the other island is off, the rescue is off! Mrs. Howell, why don't you take that fruit over to him, keep him busy for a while? ... How about you, Mr. Howell, can you do anything?* Keep people busy with fruit.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *What are we going to call him? I mean, who ever heard of a goddess named Gilligan?* Don't be fooled by a name.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *A shame, Ginger? Why, it's a disaster! ... You girls aren't taking me seriously at all.* Go where you're taken seriously. But not too.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *Oh, professor, look at this, we've got cauliflower, we've got carrots ... that's right, little buddy, we're going to grow Idaho potatoes right here! ... Oh and don't forget, Mary Ann was raised on a farm so she's going to be a big help! ... Wait till the others hear about this.* You're going to want some new recipes, or to dust off some old ones.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *But professor, if they're so primitive, how did they get this [lighter]?* If the facts don't add up, the natives might have previously been visited by someone on another island.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *Little buddy, I want to compliment you. You've really done a fine job. Put her there, pal.* Give compliments where they're due.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *Where's that shark repellent? Didn't the professor say he was going to make some? ... Don't just stand there! Keep paddling!* Keep paddling.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *Gilligan, are you almost finished? ... A sand castle?! It looks like I'm wasting my time trying to mold your character. ... Why do you suppose that I have you chop the wood, bring up water, pick up coconuts and work on the farm? I'm trying to strengthen your character. I'm trying to make you officer material!* You may or may not be officer material, but you can still pick up coconuts and chop wood.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *Whoa, Gilligan! Whoa, Gilligan! Gilligan, you're supposed to turn a little to the left. ... Well, how much do you need to know to be a horse? Let's go over it again. Now when I pull a little, turn a little. When I pull a lot, turn a lot! ... Alright, let's try it again.* For a flawless performance, you need to rehearse, rehearse, rehearse.

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	5		2		9			
				5	1			3
		2				6		
1	8							5
	9						3	
3							7	8
		7				2		
9			6	2				
			9		4		1	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/06

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. *Last week's puzzle answers are below*

2/27

9	6	2	1	8	7	5	3	4
5	1	7	4	9	3	2	8	6
8	4	3	2	6	5	1	9	7
2	3	1	7	5	6	8	4	9
6	9	4	8	2	1	3	7	5
7	5	8	3	4	9	6	2	1
4	2	5	6	7	8	9	1	3
3	8	9	5	1	4	7	6	2
1	7	6	9	3	2	4	5	8

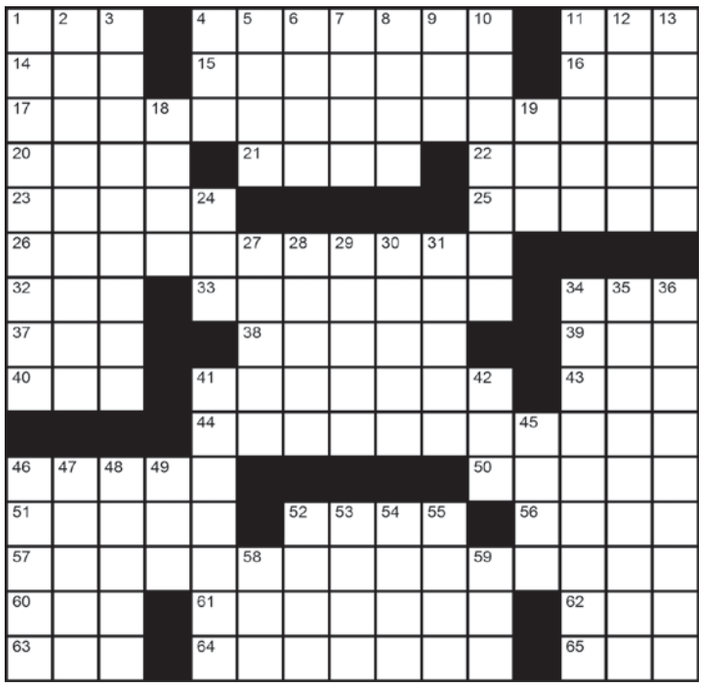
Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/27

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"We've Got Clout" — yes, that's right, out

Across

1 ___ fly (baseball play)
4 Junkies
11 Took a chair
14 Elec. text-reading method (hidden in SOCRATES)
15 Store that sells golf balls
16 One of the five W's
17 Where to hold your hands while guiding a horse?
20 Muppet friend of Rosie
21 ___ buco (Italian veal dish)
22 Actress Meg or Jennifer
23 Slumber



25 Nintendo princess
26 Acted like the "Supermassive Black Hole" band?
32 Cray or pay ender
33 Jai alai balls
34 "All in favor" word
37 Treater's pickup
38 Make trivial objections
39 Actor Chaney
40 AARP group
41 Laugh-worthy
43 Big klutz
44 "I couldn't be there--I had to sell my steam press" and others?
46 "Funeral Blues" poet W.H. ___
50 Volks ender
51 Play a mean guitar
52 Put your hands together
56 Word before mail or monger
57 Shaw or Lange, no faking?
60 Sweeping under site
61 Deal incentives
62 Paddle's cousin
63 Startled sounds
64 Fortitude
65 Abbr. in an apt. classified

Having inadvertently run the wrong questions with last week's puzzle, there is no answer key this week. The good news is, if you tried to do the puzzle and thought you were crazy, you're not! We apologize and hope you find this week's puzzle a little easier…

Down

1 Sensitive areas
2 Lacking the basic structure of life
3 "Law & Order" settings
4 Bee-related prefix
5 007's first film foe
6 Four-footed furry friends
7 AOL and NetZero, for two
8 Jimmy of shoes
9 How-___
10 Canines with puffy tails
11 Sty food
12 "Get ___ of yourself!"
13 Harding who made headlines in 1994
18 Gallagher who didn't smash melons
19 0-0, say
24 High school assembly goal
27 Designer's concern
28 Davy Crockett died defending it, with "the"
29 "___ On Up" ("The Jeffersons" theme)
30 New York State Thruway city
31 Course with lettuce
34 Everglades critter
35 Really ramped-up response to "Ready?"
36 Electrical ___
41 Grate remainder
42 Murphy has one
45 "If I Only Had the Nerve" singer Bert
46 "The Jetsons" dog
47 "I'm listening"
48 Barrel scrapings
49 Mental picture?
52 Largest island on the Caribbean
53 "The Grey" star Neeson
54 Prefix with matter
55 Ball-___ hammer
58 Drift boat attachment
59 "My Life ___ Dog" (1985 film)

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Teach a man to fish...

• The Drug Users Resource Center in Vancouver, British Columbia (heralded previously in News of the Weird for a vending machine dispensing 25-cent crack-cocaine pipes to discourage addicts from committing crimes to fund their habit), launched a program in August to supply alcoholics with beer-brewing and wine-making ingredients to discourage them from drinking rubbing alcohol, hand-sanitizer and mouthwash. The DURC "co-op" sells, for $10 monthly, brewing mix in a pre-hopped beer kit, but eventually, an official said, co-op members will brew from scratch, including boiling, mashing and milling. A civic leader told Canada's National Post that the program has already begun to reduce crime in areas frequented by alcoholics.

Government in action

• Congressional wisdom has prevented the federal government's Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) from using competitive bids to decide how much to pay for medical devices -- and among the most steeply overpriced products are "vacuum erection systems" ("penis pumps") that invigorate seniors' lives. CMS pays an average of $360, while the Department of Veterans Affairs, which also buys the pumps but by competitive bid, pays about $185. In a January report, the Health and Human Services inspector general estimated the government could save $18 million a year (and beneficiaries another $4.5 million) if CMS could use competitive bidding.

Great art!

• Frances Wadsworth-Jones' jewelry design show ("Heaven Sent") at the Museum of London runs until April, with centerpiece brooches that resemble bird droppings. Why, she was asked, would a woman want to wear jewelry suggesting that a pigeon soiled her lapel? "The stain is very intimate," said the artist. It's "something that you wouldn't want, and you're turning it into something beautiful." Wadsworth-Jones' pieces have sold for as much as the equivalent of $4,000.

• In December, the New York City parks department, responding to alarmed visitors at Socrates Sculpture Park in Queens, built a wooden fence to shield the sculpture "Bear Eats Man" so that parents might examine the structure before children start asking them awkward questions. The sculpture by Ms. Thordis Adalsteinsdottir is of a bear clutching, and about to bite, a man — who appears in shock and sports an erection that art aficionados have justified as possibly representing the man's involuntary reflexive shock, according to a New York Times report.

Police report

• Three suspects fled with about 30 pieces of jewelry from a burglary at Timothy's Fine Jewelry in Broomfield, Colo., in January, but not before creating a puzzling scene on the surveillance video. Crushing the glass cases with sledgehammers, they moved quickly around the store, all the while constantly telling each other, "I love you, brother."

• Glenn Rundles, 32, was captured only days after robbing two women at knifepoint in East Post Oak, Texas, in January — despite a wanted poster called by some the "worst police sketch ever," a "cartoon" of a comically round-faced man (displayed at http://huff.to/1cXWT3p).

• After Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Donna Jane Watts ticketed Miami Police Department officer Fausto Lopez in 2011 for speeding to an off-duty job at 120 mph, naturally some in law enforcement began harassing her as a "rat," according to a February Associated Press report. One provocation stood out — other officers' accessing Watts' driver record by claiming to be on official business. Watts identified those officers' employers and recently filed a lawsuit under the federal Driver Privacy Protection Act, which provides penalties of up to $2,500 for each of the more than 200 unauthorized searches by 88 officers from 25 police agencies.

Democracy in action

• Christopher Schaeffer likely became the first public officeholder in the U.S. sworn in as an openly declared "Pastafarian" — an adherent of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster — when he took his seat on the Town Council of Pomfret, N.Y., in January. Schaeffer was wearing the traditional Pastafarian religious head covering (a colander).

The aristocrats!

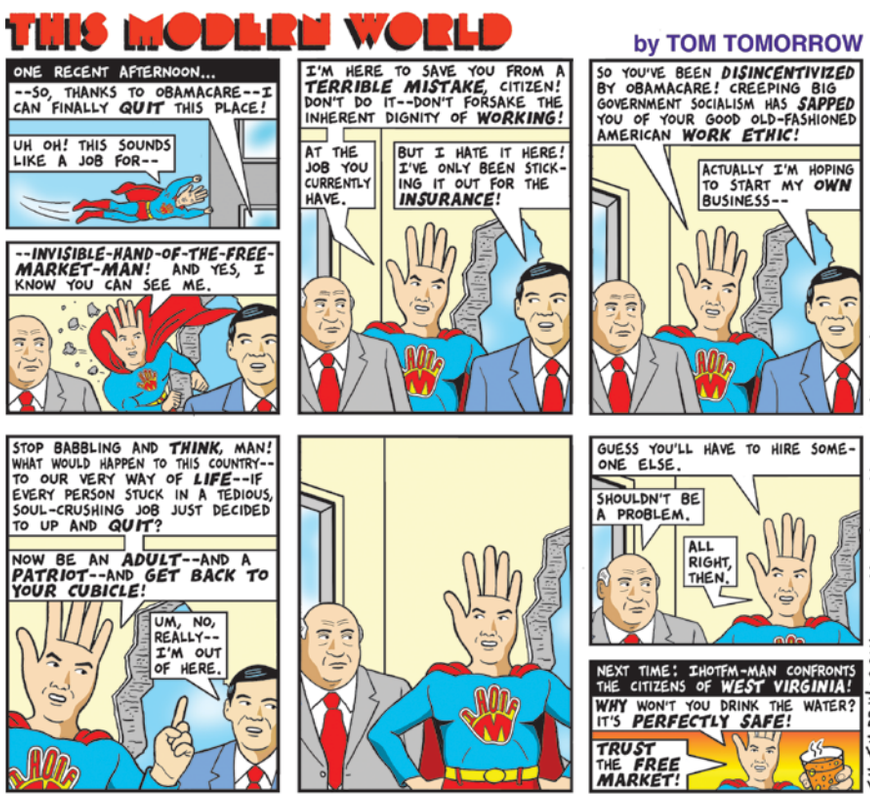
• Catherine Dajnowski, 40, was arrested in February in Boca Raton, Fla., after she had climbed into a shopping cart in the parking lot of a Publix supermarket and would not allow a Publix employee to return it to the store. Dajnowski called 911 three times from the cart, demanding that police come make the employee leave her alone — the third time during which a sheriff's deputy was standing right beside the cart.

Least competent criminals

• The surveillance video of The Shambles bar in Chicago showed that an attempted break-in one night in January went awry when the unidentified perp removed the front entrance lock but gave up and fled seconds later when he couldn't open the door — which he was shown furiously pulling on, oblivious that it was a "push" door.

• Robert Williams, 42, was charged with robbing a PNC Bank in Laurel, Md., in February after starring in the surveillance video by twice spilling his entire loot ($20,650) on the bank's floor. After he finally gathered the bills and fled in a pickup truck, police punctured the tires, and when Williams tried to run, he slipped on the ice, slashing his head open.

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